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Japan

LDP's Komoto Opposes Liberalization of Rice

OW0212090692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0829 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—Toshio Komoto, leader of the Komoto faction in the Liberal Democratic Party, on Wednesday expressed his opposition to liberalization of rice imports under the Uruguay Round of trade talks.

Komoto, a former state minister, said the agricultural issue will not constitute a big obstacle to the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round talks because farm products account for only a small part of the world's overall trade.

Japan should continue to oppose the proposed conversion of nontariff trade barrriers into tariffs, he said.

He also ruled out the idea of raising gasoline, liquor, and tobacco taxes in the national budget next fiscal year.

Komoto said that deficit-covering bonds with short maturities of two or three years should be issued if the government thinks it needs to secure sufficient financial resources in order to boost the faltering economy.

Miyazawa Supports U.S. Somalia Policy, Aid

OW0312031792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0256 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and U.S. President George Bush agreed Thursday to step up aid to war-torn Somalia, a senior Foreign Ministry official said. The agreement came in an early morning trans-Pacific telephone conversation between the two leaders, said Haruhiko Shibuya, director general of the ministry's United Nations Bureau.

According to Shibuya, Bush called Miyazawa at home and briefed him on the American offer of 30,000 ground troops for United Nations duty to secure emergency food supplies. The official quoted Miyazawa as telling Bush, "Japan, which has already extended sizable economic aid to Somalia, would like to extend its maximum help under consultations with the United States under a U.N. mandate."

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato said later that both sides understood that Japan cannot "transport" troops. He said no request was made for involvement by Japan in the proposed U.S.-led multilateral forces.

The call came three days after U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali said military force is necessary to ensure the delivery of aid to Somalia and the U.S. State Department expressed readiness to dispatch up to 30,000 combat troops.

Miyazawa told reporters in the Diet building that he endorses the U.S. stance on Somalia and favors the U.N. Security Council's moves to send U.S.-led multilateral forces to Somalia.

News reports have focussed on warring Somali clans that have assaulted or seized Western relief convoys, stirring up international concern.

Tokyo To Talk With U.S. on Lawyer Regulations

OW0312105192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1038 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—Japan will hold separate talks with the United States and the European Community (EC) this month on their demands for the easing of Japanese regulations on foreign lawyers, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

The U.S. and the EC have asked Japan during the Uruguay Round of global trade talks to lift its restrictions on foreign lawyers, including bans on their forming partnerships with Japanese attorneys.

In 1987, Japan partially opened its legal market to foreign lawyers, allowing those who have obtained licenses overseas to practice in Japan, provided they work in the field of international legal affairs.

Japan is expected to face strong pressure to open its legal market at the coming talks as the round is moving toward a year-end settlement, officials said.

A joint study group of the Justice Ministry and the Japan Federation of Bar Associations has been discussing the issue since September.

The association has expressed reservations over the proposed deregulation, saying it could lead to social confusion stemming from a rash of lawsuits.

The Foreign Ministry said the talks with the EC will be held December 15, while those with the U.S. are likely to take place around December 17.

Turkey's Demirel Continues Visit Activities

Holds News Conference 2 Dec

TA0212195092 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1800 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Report by Gulen Bican from Tokyo]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel held a news conference in Tokyo today. He announced that the official talks between the two countries lasted over one and a half hours. Demirel said that he came to Japan in order to explain Turkey's location, importance, and responsibilities in the context of changing world conditions, the cooperation it wants to establish, as well as the goals inherent in such cooperation. The prime minister declared: We were very well received here, both by the emperor and the government.

Noting that during the meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Miyazawa, he expressed Turkey's desire to further enhance the existing cooperation between the two countries, Demirel continued:

[Begin Demirel recording] As you know, there is a difference of seven hours between Ankara and New York, as well as between Ankara and Tokyo. In other words, New York and Tokyo are equidistant from Ankara. Turkey must therefore feel the same proximity to the East as it does to the West. It must not consider New York at hand's reach and Tokyo as an unreachable place.

For the past 30 years, the Turkish State has pursued a multilateral policy. This creates certain difficulties, but has very important aspects. [end recording]

It is mutual interests that determine the kind and extent of the cooperation with other countries, Demirel noted, adding that cooperation can be conducted as dictated by mutual interests. He remarked that significant developments were registered in Turkish-Japanese relations in recent years. Japan has begun displaying an interest in the development of the Turkish economy and Japanese investors have financed Turkey's infrastructure projects. Demirel recalled that in the past two years Japanese businessmen have started arriving in Turkey in droves.

Demirel declared: They have begun to view Turkey not only as a big market, but, in view of changing world conditions, as a stepping stone to the Balkans, the Middle East, the Caucasus, Central Asia, and the Black Sea Cooperation Region. This is correct.

The prime minister said that he explained to the Japanese prime minister that Turkey is a democratic, respectable, and reliable country, which respects the law and supremacy of international law, and together with its neighbors, reigns over a big market. Pointing out that industrial investments to be undertaken in Turkey will also benefit these countries, Demirel asked that the Japanese Government encourage Japanese firms to invest in Turkey. Japanese capital should be invested especially in the tourism sector in Turkey, the prime minister asked, noting that the arrival of 1 million Japanese tourists annually in Turkey will help the two nations become better acquainted.

Recalling that work is under way for the construction of the Silk Highway and Silk Railroad between Turkey and Japan, Demirel said that a Silk Airline should be added to this list with the introduction of direct flights between the two countries. He said that close to 30 projects are currently under study by Japanese engineering firms. The Istanbul water project, the Ankara-Istanbul railroad, as well as port and power projects are among these prospects, the prime minister revealed.

Demirel explained that Japan is also interested in the Central Asian countries, adding that he informed everyone of the necessity to secure stability in these countries. Japanese should be introduced as the fourth foreign language in Turkey, Demirel stated, because there are no political problems or conflict of interests between the two countries. He recounted that two Japanese-language high schools are about to be inaugurated and if Japan helps, Japanese could be used in one of the engineering schools as well.

Demirel declared: It is beneficial to understand this country, especially from a technological viewpoint. If world conditions do not change drastically in the next 20 years, Japan will preserve its leading role in technology. Turkey must therefore turn its attention not only to the West, but also to developments in this part of the world. All our talks were conducted in an extremely friendly atmosphere. The Japanese officials themselves stressed Turkey's importance in changing conditions, and we, in turn, tried to explain this as best we could.

The privatization moves in Turkey were also explained to the Japanese officials, Demirel remarked, noting that this does not consist only of selling, but that the right to property could also be transferred for a limited period.

In reply to reporters' questions on foreign debt, the prime minister emphasized that it is important to undertake this in proportion to production and employment. The turnkey model, as well as the option of joint production, is being considered in this field, he said. Demirel announced that his government will implement all this. He concluded: Those who are able to assume these undertakings will stay, and those who are not will go. This includes me.

Demirel will continue his intensive contacts in Tokyo tomorrow.

Assesses Anatolia Incidents

TA0312120492 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 1100 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Mevlut Akin report from Tokyo]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel, replying to reporters questions at the news conference he held at the National Press Club, said that Turkey has close ties with the republics that emerged following the disintegration of the Soviet Union. He added that these ties have various advantages.

Upon being asked by a Japanese journalist to assess the incidents in southeast Anatolia, Demirel said that the people living in the region are Turkish citizens and that they have all rights. Noting that the separatist terrorists active in the region are massacring civilians indiscriminately and are attacking the security forces, Demirel said that the state is fighting against them within the framework of the law. He noted that the creation of conflicts based on ethnic differences and racism are among the great dangers facing world peace.

In reply to a question by a Canadian journalist, Demirel said that Turkey is against the establishment of a Kurdish state in northern Iraq and that just like all the regional countries, it believes in the need to preserve Iraq's territorial integrity. He added that the division of Iraq would be a new factor of instability in the region.

After concluding his contacts in Tokyo, Demirel will go to Kyoto tomorrow.

Meets With Business Leaders

OW0312124292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1149 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel met Japanese business leaders Thursday and called for increased Japanese investment in central Asia.

He made the request when he discussed Japanese economic cooperation with members of the Japan-Turkey Economic Committee of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) at a Tokyo hotel, Keidanren officials said.

Demirel said he hopes Japan will expand its investment in Turkey as well as in central Asian countries such as Kazakhstan, which has formed an economic cooperation zone with Turkey, the officials said.

The Keidanren committee, led by Sakura Bank President Kenichi Suematsu, agreed to dispatch an economic mission to Turkey and the central Asian nations next April, they said.

Urges Increased Investment

OW0312055192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0502 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel called on Japan on Thursday to increase private investment in Turkey and also use it as a "stepping-board" for access in the Central Asian republics of the former Soviet Union.

"Turkey is a dependable and stable country and the only successful model combining democracy, Islam, secularism, and the principles of the market economy," Demirel told a press conference at the National Press Club.

"Like Japan, we are achieving economic development while preserving our traditions. We have a young and dynamic population," he said. He added that a "potential of about one billion people is out there for us to reach together." Turkey has a population of some 57 million. Five republics in central Asia of the former Soviet Union—Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan—have languages related to Turkish.

Demirel, who arrived in Tokyo on Tuesday for his first official six-day visit, suggested that Japan use Turkey as a "starting point" for access in the newly independent republics because Turkey is at the "crossroads" between Europe, Middle East and Asia and at the center of the Balkans, Black Sea, and the trans-Caucasian belt.

He said there are "plenty of business opportunities and natural resources" in those republics but that they need capital and technology.

The Turkish prime minister also pointed out that Turkey and Japan share historical and cultural ties dating back hundreds of years and that the two nations "can be ideal partners" because "no problems exist" in their bilateral ties.

SRV Official Urges Oil Projects Participation

OW0212131792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1251 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—A visiting senior Vietnamese Government official urged Japan on Wednesday to take part in oil development projects in the communist nation.

The request was made in a meeting between Vietnam's State Commission for Planning Chairman, Do Quoc Sam, and International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe, ministry officials said.

The Vietnamese official told Watanabe his country plans to promote petroleum refining and gas industries, along with crude oil projects, according to the officials.

In response Watanabe said, "active participation by Japanese companies in the Vietnamese oil projects will be important momentum for future bilateral relations."

Official on Thai Stance on Khmer Rouge Embargo

OW0312090392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0819 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—Thailand's uncooperative stance regarding United Nations efforts to coerce the Khmer Rouge guerrilla group to rejoin the Cambodian peace process has hurt the prospects for continued cooperation with Japan on the Cambodian issue, a senior Foreign Ministry source said Thursday.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, was referring to restrictions on UN flights from Cambodia that Thailand imposed Tuesday just hours after the UN Security Council banned the lucrative Thai-Khmer Rouge border trade in timber and gems.

He indicated that Japan's say in the Cambodia peace process would be substantially reduced without cooperation from Thailand.

The two countries have been spearheading efforts to get the Khmer Rouge to abide by the Paris peace accord of October 1991.

Thailand has been criticized in UN diplomatic circles for its reluctance to support the Security Council sanctions.

The UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) said Tuesday that Thailand was barring all incoming UN flights from Cambodia except for emergency medical evacuations.

But the Thai military subsequently said UNTAC planes were still allowed to land as long as they request permission three days in advance. Bangkok has denied any link between the restrictions and the UN Security Council resolution.

Tokyo Takes No Stand on E. Timor Leader Arrest

OW0312120092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1040 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—Japan is not taking a position on the capture and detention in Indonesia of top East Timorese rebel leader Xanana Gusmao, but will monitor Jakarta's plans to try him under Indonesian law, a senior Foreign Ministry source said Thursday.

Despite calls from Amnesty International and other groups for Japan to take a stand, Tokyo considers the issue to be a domestic affair of Indonesia, the official said.

But he said Japan will be "watching the situation," taking into account President Suharto's statement that the guerrilla leader, captured last month in the East Timorese capital of Dili, will be tried under Indonesian law.

Portugal, the former colonial power in East Timor before it was annexed by Indonesia in 1976, has called for an international campaign for Gusmao's release and for assurances that his life will not be put at risk while in detention.

Gusmao will reportedly be tried for subversion, which in Indonesia carries the death penalty.

Greenpeace Vessel Stops Tracking Plutonium Ship

OW0112162992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1533 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] London, Dec. 1 KYODO—A ship chartered by the environmental group Greenpeace International has stopped tracking the Akatsuki Maru, a Japanese ship carrying plutonium from France to Japan, Greenpeace announced Tuesday.

The Smit New York was low on fuel and was forced to pull away from the convoy after it had followed the Japanese freighter and its escort ship the Shikishima for 14,400 kilometers since they left Cherbourg, France, Greenpeace said.

The Akatsuki Maru carrying one ton of plutonium was last seen at noon GMT in waters 700 kilometers southeast of Durban, South Africa, heading in an easterly direction, Greenpeace said.

Greenpeace said the Smit New York had used 60 percent more fuel than expected and the only option left was to take on fuel in South Africa.

But Greenpeace said the operation was a success since it drew the world's attention [to] the danger that plutonium poses to the environment and the potential risks of transporting plutonium by sea.

No Redress for Diet Members Named in Affidavit

OW0312132392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1224 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—The government said Thursday there are no administrative measures which can help restore the reputations of Diet members whose names were read in an affidavit by prosecutors in connection with the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal.

The government issued the statement following Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's instruction to the cabinet councillors' office on internal affairs on November 9 to study existing administrative procedures for citizens who feel they have been treated unfairly by the judicial system.

The office held hearings on the case with the Justice Ministry and the Legislative Bureau.

Miyazawa initiated the study after mounting pressure from ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) executives to take firmer action against prosecutors.

The prosecutors read in court November 5 a deposition by Ryumin Oshima, leader of the rightist group Nihon Kominto, naming seven LDP politicians as having contacted the group to stop its harassment campaign against former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

The states redress law is available for those whose characters have been defamed by civil servants, the government said.

To win this case, the court would have to rule that the reading of the deposition was illegal. The prosecution read the affidavit on the instructions of the presiding judge.

Former LDP Vice President Shin Kanemaru, LDP Diet Affairs Committee Chairman Seiroku Kajiyama and Yoshiro Mori, chairman of the LDP Policy Affairs Research Council, were among the LDP politicians named in the deposition.

Oshima told prosecutors that a proxy for Kanemaru offered 3 billion yen to Kominto and Mori offered 2 billion yen in 1987 to try to silence a smear campaign against Takeshita, who was vying for the LDP presidency. Kanemaru and Mori have denied the allegations.

A Justice Ministry official has told the Diet that the prosecution has not verified the contents of the deposition.

The LDP announced November 6 it would file a libel suit against two unidentified prosecutors but abandoned the plan four days later.

SDP Submits Bills To Ban Corporate Donations

OW0312100792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0828 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—The Social Democratic Party [SDP] submitted a package of bills to the House of Representatives on Thursday aimed at banning political donations by corporations and organizations.

The largest opposition party incorporated items into the bills on which the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the opposition camp have failed to agree for emergency political reform plans.

The bills prohibit political donations by firms and groups, as well as their purchasing tickets for fund-raising parties and paying party membership fees and the wages of politicians' secretaries.

The package instead calls for subsidizing political parties from the state coffers if they fulfill certain conditions.

It also calls for limiting the number of political groups which can handle the political funds of politicians to one and reducing the limit of political donations which must be disclosed from the current 1 million yen to 10,000 yen.

The SDP's bills also propose disfranchising violators of the Political Funds Control Law for a period of five years.

Lower House Passes Vote Value Disparity Bill

OW0312071392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0635 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—The House of Representatives approved bills at a plenary session Thursday that would cut the disparity in the value of votes in densely and sparsely populated constituencies and stiffen penalties for politicians who take illegal political donations.

The bills were immediately forwarded to the House of Councillors and are expected to be approved by the upper house by the end of the current Diet session, parliamentary sources said.

A bill aimed at reducing the value of votes in less densely populated areas was passed with the backing of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP). The Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) voted against the bill. Two SDP members defied a party decision to oppose the bill. Motohisa Ikeda walked out of the chamber and Yoshio Sengoku boycotted the session. Members of Japanese political parties are bound by party decisions.

The bill envisages increasing the number of seats in nine underrepresented constituencies nationwide by one seat each, while reducing the number in 10 overrepresented constituencies by one seat each.

Overall, the adjustment would remove one seat from the current 512-member lower chamber.

The bill would whittle down the maximum disparity in vote value from the current 3.38 to 1 to 2.77 to 1.

The Supreme Court in 1983 ruled that a disparity of more than 3 to 1 in the value of a vote in different constituencies is unconstitutional, making it technically illegal for a prime minister to call a snap election without redressing the disparity.

The adjustment will mark the fourth of its kind in the lower chamber since 1945. It will be the first since 1986, when the lower chamber took away seven seats from overrepresented electorates and added eight seats to underrepresented electorates.

The LDP, SDP, Komeito, and DSP also approved a package of emergency political reform bills, but the JCP voted against it.

The package calls for a maximum penalty of a one-year jail term for politicians who received political donations exceeding the legal limit.

The package also calls for barring parliamentarians who were jailed for taking bribes from seeking reelection. It also empowers the authorities to confiscate illicit political donations.

It also bans politicians from raising funds through having officials of government ministries and agencies sell tickets for fund-raising parties on the politicians' behalf.

House of Councillors Begins Budget Deliberations

OW0312083192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0805 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—The House of Councillors began deliberations on the supplementary budget Thursday afternoon after the ruling and opposition parties agreed to summon three key people to testify as sworn witnesses in connection with the money-and-mobster Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Scandal.

The upper house's Budget Committee decided at a session to summon former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita next Monday morning, Kiyoshi Sagawa, owner of the parcel delivery firm Sagawa Kyubin Co., on Tuesday morning, and Hiroyasu Watanabe, former president of the now-defunct Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin, on Tuesday afternoon.

The Social Democratic Party, Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party, and Rengo-Sangiin demanded the summoning of Masahisa Haibara, an aide of disgraced kingpin Shin Kanemaru, along with Takeshita and Sagawa.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party rejected the demand, saying Haibara will testify under oath in the House of Representatives during the current Diet session.

Kaname Endo, chairman of the committee, proposed instead the questioning of Watanabe, who is on trial for aggravated breach [of] trust for causing huge losses to the company and is in custody at the Tokyo detention house. The opposition accepted Endo's proposal.

Sagawa is "recuperating" in a freind's home and his testimony is expected to be given there, parliamentary sources said.

Takeshita testified as a sworn witness in the lower house on November 26 and denied allegations that a boss of the Inagawa-kai crime syndicate was involved in his becoming LDP president and prime minister in 1987.

Watanabe refused to answer almost all questions posed by a panel of lower house members at the detention house on November 27.

Haibara's testimony is expected to take place in the lower house around next Wednesday, the sources said.

Kanemaru testified when questioned in hospital on November 27 that he did not know how the 500 million yen in illegal political donations he received from Watanabe in 1990 was distributed because Haibara handled the money.

The supplementary budget, featuring a large part of the 10.7 trillion yen economic pump-priming package announced by the government in late August, passed the lower house on Tuesday.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told the session he does not agree with allegations that mobsters were involved in the birth of the Takeshita government.

Miyazawa said, "Although there are various reports, rumors and suspicions, I have not heard a single verifiable fact" to support the allegations.

Kanemaru is alleged to have asked for help from the late head of the Inagawa-kai, Susumu Ishii, through Watanabe, to urge the rightist group Nihon Kominto (Emperor's Subjects Party of Japan) to stop its smear campaign against Takeshita, who was then vying for the LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] presidency.

Maki Murasawa, an SDP [Social Democratic Party] member, urged Miyazawa to meet Takeshita and recommend that he resign, but the prime minister brushed aside the suggestion, saying, "For myself, I would resign if I lost the trust (of the public), but it is up to Diet members to judge for themselves whether voters still trust them."

In a related move, SDP Chairman Makoto Tanabe said his party will submit a resolution to the lower house as early as next Monday demanding that Takeshita resign.

Hayami Backs Deficit Bonds, Rice Tariffication

OW0312051192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0340 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—The government should issue deficit-covering bonds if such a move is required to boost the economy, the head of an influential business group said Thursday.

Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), expressed the view in a meeting with International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe, government officials said. Hayami told the minister the government should prepare the fiscal 1993 budget without introducing any tax increases so as to prop up the economy and improve the standard of living, the officials of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said.

Watanabe replied that the government will place due importance on pump-priming measures when drawing up the budget for fiscal 1993, which begins next April. While stressing the need for encouraging capital spending and transactions in the stock market, Watanabe promised to make every effort to salvage the real economy, the officials said.

Hayami also stressed the need for paving the way to replace the rice import ban with tariffs and for Japan to help bring the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks to a successful conclusion, they said. Watanabe replied that Japan, as one of the largest beneficiaries of the free trade system, should make a positive contribution to bringing the round to a conclusion, according to the officials.

Investment Trusts To Increase Data Disclosure

OW0312104392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1022 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—The Investment Trust Association plans to strengthen the industry's information disclosure system to offer a clearer picture of product risks to investors, and introduce the new system as early as next April, association officials said Thursday.

The officials said the move reflects recent complaints from investors that brokerage houses and investment trusts failed to sufficiently explain possible losses below par value. With the prolonged stock market slump since 1990, many funds fell below their face value.

To avoid such trouble with investors, the association intends to set up a uniform risk rating of four or five grades, similar to one already used by Nomura Securities Co., the officials said.

The clearer risk information also is intended to help brokerages select funds to match customer needs.

Investment trust funds, called mutual funds in the United States, are offered to investors through brokerage houses, and the funds are managed by investment trust firms.

Along with the new disclosure system, the association plans to revise the commission system to encourage long-term investors, including higher commissions on investment cancellations within one to three years, and lower charges when purchasing funds.

Many analysts were pessimistic that the reforms would attract investors because of the lingering uncertainties over stock prices.

Tokyo Summit Agenda To Include Employment Issues

OW0312080392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0727 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—The Tokyo summit of seven industrial nations slated for next July will include on its agenda problems concerning employment and unemployment, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Thursday.

Miyazawa made the remarks in a meeting with World Trade Union Confederation Leader Enzo Friso, an Italian, in the Diet, government officials said.

Frisco, general secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), urged Miyazawa to raise the problems at the summit as "common problems" of the industrialized and developing nations, the officials said.

Miyazawa replied the Tokyo summit will discuss the problems because it is important for prosperity to spread not only among the industrialized nations but throughout developing nations.

The 86.5-million-strong ICFTU consists of 142 organizations from 97 nations.

The ICFTU opened a two-day conference in Tokyo on Thursday of its Asian and Pacific regional organization.

Protection of Foreign Laborers' Rights Urged

OW0312134992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1309 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—A Japanese citizens' group Thursday called on labor authorities to protect the human rights of illegal foreign workers who have been mistreated by their employers.

The Tokyo-based group, which supports human rights of foreign workers staying in Japan after their visas have expired, told reporters that since March last year it has received a total of 189 complaints about labor conditions from 464 people.

Among the complaints, voiced chiefly by Iranians, 106 cases were about nonpayment of wages, followed by 43 concerning welfare such as medical care and accommodations and 42 regarding labor accidents, the group said.

The group cited as an example the case of five Iranians who claim that a construction company in western Tokyo owes them 3.5 million yen in wages for work they did over the five-month period from February to June.

The wages were not paid when their manager went missing and the company refused to negotiate on the matter, saying the manager personally hired the men, the group said.

The group also said that since last year some 100 Iranians have fallen victim to fraud at Tokyo's Ueno Park, where many foreigners gather to seek jobs from brokers. Some foreigners were swindled out of 50,000 yen each as part of a scam involving bogus job offers, they said.

The support group said the government should provide protection under Japan's labor laws to foreign workers even though the workers are in Japan illegally.

North Korea

North Objects to U.S. General Powell's Remarks

SK0212144792 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Chong Pong-kil's commentary: "Warmonger's Violent Remarks Making Korean War an Established Fact"]

[Text] Ominous moves have recently took place among U.S. warmongers in connection with the election of Clinton as President.

According to a report, Powell, chairman of U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, on 1 December contributed a special article entitled, "My Advice to Clinton, the President-elect," to the winter edition of "FOREIGN AFFAIRS" which is published and sold in the United States. In this article, he said that the present military strategy of the U.S. Administration was established on the presumption of concurrent wars in the Mideast and on the Korean peninsula. He raved that Clinton's new government should carefully work out future military plans so that wars in the Middle East and on the Korean peninsula can be executed concurrently.

He predicted the possibility of wars in the Gulf area and in the Pacific region including the Korean peninsula, and stressed that when establishing new military strategies, it is necessary the U.S. Administration have the capability to concurrently execute two wars—one in the Middle East and the other on the Korean peninsula.

Prior to this, on 30 November, in a lecture on U.S.-Japan relations after Clinton takes the presidency, the U.S. Ambassador to Japan said that even if the Democratic Party may reduce the number of U.S. troops in Europe, it will not withdraw U.S. troops from South Korea. He then raved that the United States will continuously maintain its military power in Asia.

Such gibberish by the U.S. warmongers constitute violent remarks. It has made war on the Korean peninsula an established fact. It is a malicious challenge to our people and the peace-loving people of the world who unanimously want durable peace and peaceful reunification of our country.

As is known to all, the trend of today's world is advancing toward peace, not war, and to disarmament and detente. Reflecting the current trends, a sign of detente and not a showdown, has also appeared on the Korean peninsula.

Thanks to our active and patient efforts, North-South high-level talks have been held on eight occasions. At these talks, agreements were adopted and effectuated on providing favorable circumstances for the road of national reunification. The agreements included achievement of national reconciliation by eliminating political and military confrontation, prevention of invasion and clashes through armed force, and relaxation of tensions and the guarantee of peace.

This development gave our people and the peace-loving people of the world a new hope for Korea's reunification.

Nevertheless, the U.S. imperialists are making war on the Korean peninsula an established fact, are putting artificial barriers in front of North-South dialogue, and are running toward war, not peace.

Along with the puppets, the U.S. imperialists decided to resume the already postponed Team Spirit joint military exercise, and to stage the Eagle and Hwarang war exercises on the eve of the meeting for the joint committees for the implementation of the North-South agreement. This is an intentional maneuver to disrupt the North-South dialogue and to lead the situation on the Korean peninsula, which has been showing signs of detente, toward the brink of war.

Even after the U.S. imperialists ended the Eagle and Hwarang war exercises in South Korea, they still fire shots everyday at our side's area along the Military Demarcation Line and its region, and commit very dangerous provocative military war exercises against us.

As Powell babbled, the war maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists which are becoming more vicious with each passing day is in accordance with the U.S. Administration's military strategy which has made war on the Korean peninsula an established fact.

What is a problem that cannot be ignored is the fact that the U.S. imperialist warmongers, including Powell, have babbled that the new Clinton administration must anticipate the possibility of war on the Korean peninsula and map out a new military strategy [kurondae tougi munjesi hajiannul su omnungusun powell ulbirothan mijehojongwangduri clinton saehaengjongbudo chosonbandoesoui chonjaengui kanungsongul naedabogo saeroun kunsajollyagul surip haeyahandagoddodungusimnida].

The U.S. imperialist warmongers have not accepted even today our just proposal demanding that they abolish their plan to resume the Team Spirit war exercise—a test nuclear exercise and a preliminary war—by late November. They are babbling that they will not withdraw their troops from South Korea even at a time when this issue is on the agenda. They are, moreover, applying military pressure on us under the pretext of nonexistent nuclear suspicions.

All these facts show that the U.S. imperialist warmongers' aggressive nature have not changed at all and they are trying to wage a war to invade the North so that they can achieve in whatever way their aggressive ambitions. Nevertheless, the U.S. imperialist warmongers should truly face reality and act with discretion. The road to aggression and war is the road to destruction.

In accordance with the trend of the times, the new U.S. Administration should throw away the reckless war maneuver which is in conformity with the demand of our people and peace-loving people of the world, and immediately withdraw from South Korea their aggressive army and means of war. We will keenly observe the Clinton administration's policy on Korea.

'U.S. Bellicose Quarters' Seek War

SK0312055792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0427 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Pyongyang December 3 (KCNA)—The chairman of the U.S. joint chiefs of staff in an article contributed to a magazine published in the United States Monday "recommended" to give careful consideration to working out a military plan so as to carry out a war simultaneously in the Korean peninsula and the Middle East, according to a CBS [Christian Broadcasting System] report from Seoul.

This reveals that the bellicose quarters of the United States, regarding the northern half of Korea which is making a long drive in the socialist revolution under the uplifted banner of independence as a thorn in their flesh, are running with bloodshot eyes in the moves to ignite the second war of aggression in Korea to stamp out the revolutionary cause of the Korean people.

It also shows that the U.S. bellicose quarters are directing the spearhead of aggression as ever to the Middle East to take the Mideast's rich oil fields in their hands and check the struggle of its people to build a new society.

Soldier's Meeting Marks Cuban Army Day

SK0212050492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Pyongyang December 2 (KCNA)—A soldiers' meeting was held Tuesday at the unit of the Korean People's Army to which Cho Myong-son belongs on the occasion of the 36th day of the Cuban revolutionary Armed Forces.

Invited to the meeting were charge d' affaires ad interim Miguel Puentez, military attache Emilim Morales Segui and officials of the Cuban Embassy here.

Speeches were made at the meeting.

NODONG SINMUN Lauds Cuban Army

SK0212050992 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Pyongyang December 2 (KCNA)—The Cuban revolutionary army is fully prepared politically and ideologically and in military technique and creditably defends the fortress of socialism which has rooted deep in the territory of Cuba.

NODONG SINMUN says this today in a by-lined article dedicated to the 36th day of the Cuban revolutionary Armed Forces.

It goes on:

The Cuban revolutionary Armed Forces are further perfecting combat readiness with heightened vigilance against the U.S. imperialists' heinous anti-Cuban moves. In particular, men and officers of the eastern forces who stand face to face with the U.S. imperialists in the Guantanamo military base vowed some time ago to further strengthen unity and make full combat preparations to cope with the enemy's provocation manoeuvres, saying that the United States can never frighten the Cuban people.

The working people of Cuba, too, are in full combat readiness, while pushing ahead with the drive for increased production and economy in keeping with the requirement of the situation. Their high revolutionary spirit is manifested also in their financial support to the territorial defence army.

Today the revolutionary Armed Forces and people of Cuba are firmly determined to safeguard the revolution and defend socialism in the spirit of "granma" under the slogan "fatherland or death, socialism or death, we will win".

Central Committee Names Envoy

SK0312054792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Pyongyang December 3 (KCNA)—Kim Song-yong was appointed DPRK ambassador EP [extraordinary and plenipotentiary] to the Republic of Cuba, according to a decree of the DPRK Central People's Committee.

KCNA Summarizes Contents of DPRK-Croatia Joint Communique

SK0212054592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0438 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Pyongyang December 2 (KCNA)—A joint communique on establishing diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level between the DPRK and Croatia was published on November 30.

The joint communique says that the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the government of the Republic of Croatia agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level and exchange diplomatic missions in order to develop the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries on the principles of independence, equality, mutual benefit and non-interference in other's internal affairs, in conformity with international peace and security and with the U.N. Charter and principles and the Vienna Convention and rules on diplomatic relations dated April 18, 1961.

The two sides, it notes, agreed to continuously apply the bilateral agreements which were signed between the DPRK and the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the relations between the DPRK and the Republic of Croatia till new agreements are signed.

Paper Alleges ROK To Use U.S. 'Satellite Spying Equipment'

SK0312045492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Pyongyang December 3 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today denounces the South Korean puppets' plan to introduce up-to-date satellite spying equipment from the United States as part of their moves to complete preparations for a war against the north.

This fully shows that the South Korean puppets are further intensifying espionage against the North with the mobilisation of all modern military hardware and getting overheated in stepping up preparations for a surprise attack, looking for a chance, the news analyst says, and goes on:

The South Korean puppets, together with the U.S. imperialists, are viciously committing espionage against the north, while continuing frantic war rackets according to the military instructions of their master.

The plan of the South Korean puppets, the war servants of the U.S. imperialists, to have even satellite spying equipment, mad with arms buildup, proves once again that they are trying to bring the North-South relations back to the original point of confrontation and ignite a fratricidal war by increasing their "capacity of invasion against the north".

NODONG SINMUN Stresses Role of Intellectuals

SK0212115892 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0007 GMT 29 Nov 92

[NODONG SINMUN 29 November special article: "Our Intellectuals' Great Pride in Advancing Along the Road of the Revolution While Upholding the Great Leader [yongdoja]"]

[Text] Taking great pride and confidence in carrying out the revolution under the leadership of the great party, our country's intellectuals have played a great role in the struggle to glorify socialism of our own style. Our intellectuals' great pride and glory have been further heightened with the victorious advance of the chuche revolutionary cause, that is, the consolidation and development of our style of socialism centered on the popular masses.

Our intellectuals' fate has been brilliantly pioneered due to the leadership of the great leader [yongdoja] and because our party's correct policy toward intellectuals to which the chuche idea is applied has brought the great vitality into full play.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: Only under the correct leadership of the working class party can intellectuals form a component on the independent main forces of the revolution. Only then can they smoothly play their roles in revolution and construction.

The position and role of intellectuals in revolution and construction are inseparable from the leader [yongodja] of the revolution. As the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted, intellectuals comprise an important part of the main forces of the revolution and play an important role in revolution and construction. However, this is no automatic process.

Only when intellectuals uphold the great leader of the revolution can they attain their status as a component of the independent main forces centered on the leader; constantly heighten their status; and play a great role in revolution and construction.

Intellectuals' fate is directly related with socialist fate. The socialist cause's success and failure depend on the leader [yongdoja]. Only under the leadership of the great leader [yongdoja] can intellectuals enjoy a worthwhile life and happiness and bring into full bloom their wisdom and talent in socialism.

Our party's history shows that our party has most correctly resolved the issue concerning intellectuals. Thus, our party's history is a proud course which vigorously demonstrates that only when the great leadership is carried forward can intellectuals' fate and future be brilliantly pioneered.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, regarding intellectuals as members of the main forces, inscribed the hammer, sickle, and the pen in our party's logo. He has firmly believed intellectuals and rallied them around the party by indoctrinating them in a revolutionary manner.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has defended intellectuals' fate and carefully looked after them. As a result, our country's intellectuals have taken high pride in defending and safeguarding the party's socialist cause.

Under the wise leadership of the dear leader, Comrade Kim Chong-il, who carries forward the noble intent of the great leader, the high pride and glory of our country's intellectuals are further glorified. The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has positively inspired our intellectuals to carry out the historical cause of modelling the whole society on the chuche idea. In addition, he has wisely led the cause of thoroughly making intellectuals revolutionary and assimilating them into the working class. He has also led the cause of assimilating the entire society into the intelligentsia.

Our intellectuals have, above all, brought the glory into full play as the party's eternal companion, faithful helper, and great adviser on the road of following the great leader [yongdoja]. How intellectuals enjoy a proud, worthwhile life in socialist society mainly depends on how they contribute to carrying out the party's cause, that is, the working class' revolutionary cause to realize the independence of the popular masses.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il gave our intellectuals the precious title of the party's eternal companion, faithful helper, and great adviser. This is the highest trust and honor bestowed upon our intellectuals by the great leader [yongdoja].

Intellectuals should become the party's eternal companion. This means that they should become revolutionaries who entirely entrust the party with their fate and share their fate with the party to the end.

Intellectuals should become the party's faithful helper. This means that they should be reliable helpers who uphold the party through practical success by supporting, defending, and thoroughly carrying out the party's intent and plan.

Intellectuals should be the party's great adviser. This means that they should be enthusiastic meditators and positive activists who put forward constructive plans and methods to resolve issues that arise in carrying out the revolution. This shows not only the party's firm position to lead intellectuals' fate to a bright future with a sense of responsibility, but also the party's belief and expectation that intellectuals should positively contribute to carrying out the party's cause through practical struggle.

By sharing their fate with the party to the end and upholding the party's cause through practical success, intellectuals can enjoy the most proud and worthwhile life in the sacred revolutionary course of realizing the independent cause.

Intellectuals should eternally share their intention and fate with the party which has brought them up, not with a temporary companion of the revolution or a travelling companion. They should become those who thoroughly defend and carry out the party policy. This is none other than the greatest happiness and glory of intellectuals.

Our party has given intellectuals the highest honor and dignity and is leading their destiny to a bright future with a sense of responsibility. Thanks to this great leadership, our intellectuals have become the most revolutionary intellectuals who invariably and firmly advance along the road of loyalty, while believing and following the party with fortitude in any rigorous storm of history.

The pride and honor of our intellectuals who are carrying out the revolution under the guidance of the great leader [yongdoja] lies in the fact that they bring into full bloom their talent and wisdom in the fruitful struggle for socialism. Intellectuals are the working people who create social welfare through mental labor. They are also creators who struggle to reform and develop nature and society through their knowledge and technology.

Intellectuals should devote their wisdom and energy to resolving scientific and technological issues required by the party and the people. Upholding the party and the leader with brilliant creative success is the greatest glory and pride to the intellectuals who have been brought up under our party's care.

Intellectuals' creative meditation and knowledge in socialist society can bear brilliant fruit only under the leadership of the great leader [yongdoja] who has sagacious knowledge. Under the great leader [yongdoja]'s care, the great unit of intellectuals is firmly formed. Under his care, the creative success, which positively contributes to revolutionary struggle and construction, is effected.

It is under the energetic guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great thinker, theoretician, and tender-hearted teacher who possesses both literary and military accomplishments, loyalty, and filial duty, that our intellectuals are now bringing into full bloom their creative talents and wisdom in all fields and are adding brilliant luster to the era of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK].

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has widely led all fields of work ranging from science and technology to education, literature, art, and the press and publications. He has brightly elucidated the direction and method for our intellectuals with rare knowledge and scientific insight.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has developed and enriched the chuche idea which is the revolutionary view of the world in independent times, and has published encyclopedic, immortal, classics. His untiring ideological and theoretical activity, which clearly and brightly elucidates all issues arising in revolution and construction, has been an unfathomable source for meditation and activity of our intellectuals.

Our intellectuals have vigorously struggled to carry out the party's plan under our party's wise leadership. As a result, a new change has been effected in scientific and technological development; a new era for automation has opened; and a great heyday of literary and artistic development has been unveiled. In the communications field, revolutions in newspapers, the press, and publications have been vigorously carried out. Work in education and public health fields have borne proud fruit.

In the course of effecting exploits in the struggle to glorify the WPK era under the party's leadership, our intellectuals wholeheartedly cherish the uncommon leadership of the party which has led to the road of victory and glory. They are filled with endless glory and happiness at receiving the great party's leadership.

Pride and confidence of our intellectuals who carry out the revolution under the guidance of the great leader [yongdoja] derive from the fact that they conduct worthwhile creative activities, and are provided with excellent working and living conditions.

Our people are constructing socialism under circumstances in which our people have shouldered heavy burdens many times over due to national division and direct confrontation with U.S. imperialists. Even under the difficult circumstances in which the imperialists and reactionaries of all kinds viciously maneuver to stifle our Republic, our party has paid deep attention to intellectuals and granted all consideration and benefits to them.

The motherly party has provided all of our intellectuals, including scientists, technicians, writers, teachers, reporters, and others, with the most noble political life, belief, benevolent love, and consideration. Our intellectuals, who enjoy a happy life the world envies, come to more deeply take pride and confidence in upholding the great leader [yongdoja] who grants benevolent consideration to them with each passing day. They are brimming over with the verve to add luster to the glory through the single mind of loyalty and filial piety.

Even though the imperialists and reactionaries of all kinds are viciously maneuvering to undermine socialism, they can never shake the will of our intellectuals who, as though sunflowers, firmly believe and follow their leader from the bottom of their hearts.

As our intellectuals have acquired as their faith the principle of historical development which says that capitalism portends to ruin and socialism to victory, they will advance along the road of socialism, following the great leader [yongdoja].

The genuine road to practice loyalty and filial duty to the party and the leader lies in upholding the party's cause through practical success. Our intellectuals will reward the party's trust and expectation with loyalty by firmly establishing the revolutionary view of the leader, better preparing themselves to be intellectuals armed with the chuche idea, and thoroughly carrying out the revolutionary mission assigned by the party.

KCNA Reviews 3 Dec Pyongyang Press

SK0312061292 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang December 3 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today reports that "With the Century", reminiscences of the great leader President Kim Il-song was widely disseminated and studied abroad.

The paper tells a story that President Kim Il-song has always believed in the strength of the people and relied on them throughout his protracted revolutionary activities.

According to dailies, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il extended thanks to the party members and other working people in Paechon county, South Hwanghae Province who have set an example in developing military-civilian relations.

Given in NODONG SINMUN is an account of a symposium on the chuche-based literary and art idea regarding "On Music Art", a classical work of Comrade Kim Chong-il, which was held in Pyongyang.

The paper carries a signed article on the attraction of the mass heroism displayed by the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners.

A national meeting of chairwomen of model primary organizations of the Women's Union was held, it reports.

Econews of the press includes reports about innovations in the production of machine tools and railway transport.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the Korean ambassador paid a courtesy call on the Maltese prime minister and the general secretary of the People's Democratic Union of Portugal and the national chairman of the National Convention Party of Ghana met with the Korean ambassadors to their countries.

Given in the paper are accounts of a cocktail party arranged by the military attache of the Cuban Embassy in Pyongyang on the 36th day of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces and a meeting of Korean People's Army soldiers held on this occasion.

Dailies inform the readers that a South Korea-U.S. combined marines command was knocked into shape and the November issue of the South Korean monthly magazine MAL published "five questionable points over the case of the Workers' Party of Korea in South Korea".

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary on the unending atrocities by U.S. soldiers in South Korea, and MINJU CHOSON a commentary lashing out at the South Korean puppets' moves to purchase latest satellite espionage equipment from the United States.

Foreign media shed a revealing light on the concrete wall built by the South Korean authorities in the area south of the Military Demarcation Line, reports NODONG SINMUN.

The daily conveys what foreigners said about the vitality of Korean-style socialism.

It carries a commentary revealing a full picture of the "welfare society for all" advertised by the imperialists and a signed article stressing the need to combat the infiltration of the bourgeois ideology and culture by the imperialists into socialist countries.

The paper reports that the chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Social-Democratic Party expressed his determination to strive for the normalization of Japan-Korea diplomatic relations, the Angolan president called for cooperation for peace of the country, the Mongolian president referred to the epochal significance of the proclamation of the republic in the history of the Mongolian people and the Filipino president called upon the people to strive for a prosperity of the country.

'Complicated Developments' in Russian Politics Examined

SK2911033092 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 17 Nov 92

[Text] Complicated developments have been taking place in Russia with the convening of the Congress of People's Deputies around the corner. According to a ITAR-TASS report, in a 12 November news conference, leaders of Russian Unity, an opposition bloc, called for restraining people who had been preparing to declare a state of emergency in the country.

They insisted that the Russian president's aides have been planning to disband the Russian Congress of People's Deputies and Supreme Soviet. Deputy Mikhail (Astatyev) stressed that the Russian Constitution does not stipulate direct presidential rule and that a state of emergency can be declared only under the Supreme Soviet's consent. He pointed out that the attitude of considering the parliament to be an obstacle to reforms had been artificially bred in Russian society in order to disband it.

At the 13 November session of the Russian Supreme Soviet, quoting a reliable Kremlin source, (Iona Andronov), vice chairman of the International Affairs and External Economic Relations Committee of the parliament, insisted that the plan had been mapped out to disband the Russian parliament on 24 or 25 November. ITAR-TASS reported that his remarks resounded in the meeting hall like a bombshell. (Andronov) said that the presidential office and government offices had been planning this measure and that a state of emergency would be declared after the parliament is disbanded. He also insisted that a presidential secretary for state affairs, the minister of the press and the mass media, and the minister of defense had been involved in this issue.

In connection with this, the minister of the press and the mass media denied that he was involved in mapping out the plan, adding: If a plan to declare a state of emergency did exist, the plan may have been mapped out by the general chief of staff.

The Russian president's information officer said that the remarks by Deputy (Andronov) reflected the utter insanity of some circles in parliament.

In the 14 November interview given to a news program of Ostankino, a television station, the Russian defense minister rebutted (Andronov's) accusation that he was trying to play a key role in staging a coup d'etat [kukkajongbyon] and in disbanding the parliament. He said: Declaring a state of emergency across the country is unthinkable. The situation, however, in some regions where people are dying and where blood is being shed because of ethnic conflicts demands that emergency measures be taken.

During a speech to participants in a meeting of regional Soviet leaders on 14 November Russian Supreme Soviet Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov pointed out that alleviating extreme political tension in the upper echelon of the power bodies, rather than in society, is one of the Russian parliament's most important tasks. He also said that the minister of press and mass media made some remarks during a news conference denouncing the Supreme Soviet. Referring to the rumors that a state of emergency would be declared in the Russian Federation, he stated that a state of emergency cannot be declared without the Supreme Soviet's consent. He also said that irrespective of who is involved, any such attempt would be considered to be a coup d'etat and that anyone who organizes it would be committing a crime against the state. He also said that presidential rule, parliamentary rule, or any other ruling system than the ruling system which complies with the Constitution cannot exist. He also said that acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar virtually cannot control the government and that all the ministers behave like they are the prime minister.

The chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet also pointed out that trying to postpone the date for convening the Congress of People's Deputies, which the Supreme Soviet had decided on, is a fruitless effort. He also pointed out that 1 December, the date for convening the congress, was determined at the two rounds of meetings of deputies.

The Russian president and the leaders of the republics of the Russian Federation have asked the parliament to postpone the convening of the Congress of People's Deputies until next spring. The parliament, however, has not complied with the request.

During a news conference, the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Russian Citizens League said that in order to constructively hold the Russian Congress of People's Deputies, before the congress begins the president must revise his economic policies, change the government structure accordingly, and express his willingness to meet factions of the parliament. He reiterated the Citizens League's opposition to the implementation of a presidential control system in Russia, adding that this would threaten constitutional rule and accelerate a divisionist tendency in the Russian Federation.

Science Academy Conducts 'Valuable Research'

SK0212113492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Pyongyang December 2 (KCNA)—The Korean Academy of Sciences successfully carried out tens of thousands of valuable research tasks in the past 40 years since its founding, greatly contributing to the chuche-orientation, modernization and scientification of the national economy.

In this period, vinalon, vinyl chloride, reed fibre, electronic and automation industries, independent fuel industry, potassic fertilizer and atomic power industries and many other industrial branches have appeared and up-to-date production methods and equipment have been introduced.

Scientists and technicians created the chuche-based metallurgical method and solved many scientific and technical matters including the industrialization of the production of movilon and okdang sugar, the synthetic processing of potassium feldspar and the production of stainless steel with domestic raw material.

They developed electronic and automation elements and gadgets to produce ultraminiature electronic computers and electronic daily necessaries and completed the method of breeding and transplanting new plants and the method of producing biopesticides.

Besides, their success includes the bold introduction of precast construction and concrete tamping with movable frames to ensure a high speed of construction and the computerization of factory management.

Among them are more than 20 labour heroes and 60 people's scientists and merited scientists.

KCNA Reports Japanese Group's Request for Normalized Ties

SK2611045792 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0419 GMT 26 Nov 92

[Text] Tokyo November 24 (KNS-KCNA)—The Shizuoka Prefectural People's Council for Japan-Korea Friendship conducted a request action on November 19 demanding of the government an early normalization of the Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations.

Representatives including Kiju Sakurai, social-democratic member of the House of Councillors and delegate member of the Shizuoka prefectural people's councitfor Japan-Korea friendship, and akira kikuda, chairman of the shizuoka hrefectural centre of the council of trade unions, called at the prime minister's residence and the foreign ministry and handed a written request addressed to the prime minister and the foreign minister.

They met Tadashi Ikeda, director of the Asian department of the Foreign Ministry. Recalling that the Japanese side laid a difficulty in the way of the talks by raising the matter of an unidentified Japanese woman at the eighth full-dress intergovernmental talks between Japan and the DPRK in Beijing, they stated they could not but view this as an outspoken delaying tactics and strongly urged the Japanese side to approach the talks with a sincere attitude.

On the same day, the Mie Prefectural People's Council for Japan-Korea Friendship and the Mie Prefectural Women's Council for Promoting Japan-Korea Friendship demanded of the Japanese Foreign Ministry an early normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations.

Representatives of the organisations handed a written request addressed to the foreign minister of Japan and a statement of 159 public organisations in Mie Prefecture, demanding the early normalization of the Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations.

The request urged an immediate resumption of intergovernmental talks between Japan and the DPRK and a preferential solution to the matter of apology and compensation for the colonial rule at the talks.

Papers Call For Stronger 'Anti-Imperialist Struggle'

SK2711121992 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1037 GMT 27 Nov 92

["Papers Call For Intensifying Anti-imperialist Struggle"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang November 27 (KCNA)—Papers here today come out with signed articles calling on the peoples of socialist countries and progressive peoples of the world to firmly unite and vigorously wage the anti-imperialist struggle.

NODONG SINMUN says:

However complicated the international situation may be, it is inevitable that the people's cause of socialism, the cause of independence, will emerge victorious.

The imperialists' moves to stifle the people's cause of independence are getting more vicious. This requires that the anti- imperialist struggle should be waged vigorously.

The imperialists are concentrating their attack on the anti-imperialist independent forces including the socialist countries and intensifying political pressure, economic blockade and military threat and blackmail against those countries.

This shows that without the struggle against imperialism it is impossible to realise the progressive people's desire to live an independent life in a world free from domination and subjugation, aggression and war.

In order to realise the people's independence, it is imperative first of all for all the anti-imperialist independent forces to pool their strength in the common front against imperialism.

Only then their strength will be increased beyond measure and it is possible to successfully smash the reactionary offensive of the imperialists.

What is most important in the unity of the anti-imperialist independent forces of the world is that all the anti-imperialist forces including the socialist countries, the international communist movement and the working-class movement, the national-liberation movement, the Nonaligned Movement and the peace movement of the world join the front of anti-imperialist struggle.

The role of revolutionary parties is important in realising the unity of the anti-imperialist independent forces.

The parties of the socialist countries and progressive parties of the world must take the lead in the struggle against imperialism and for the accomplishment of the human cause of independence and make energetic efforts to unite all the anti-imperialist independent forces.

MINJU CHOSON stresses that the anti-imperialist independent forces must smash the imperialists' moves for division and alienation and firmly unite under the banner of anti-imperialist independence, transcending the differences in ideology and social system, nation and religious belief.

'Friendly City' Relations Begin With Benin

SK2611131392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 26 Nov 92

[Text] Pyongyang November 26 (KCNA)—Sariwon city of the DPRK and Ouidah city of Benin established friendly city ties.

The mayor of Oiudah city and other officials concerned and the Korean ambassador to Benin and his embassy officials participated in the function which was held at a hall of culture in Ouidah city, Benin, on November 20.

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* Economic Construction Seen as Vital to Socialism

932C0032A Pyongyang NODONG SINMUM in Korean 13 Oct 92 p 3

[By reporter Yi Chu-ho: "Constructing a Self-Reliant Economy Is Our Party's Consistent Principle of Socialist Construction"]

[Text] The socialist economy is constructed according to its unique developmental principles. Therefore, proper materialization of the basic requirements of socialism in economic construction is an important task in order to display the superiority of the socialist economic system.

The construction of a strong, self-reliant national economy, that will develop as planned, is a rightful policy of economic construction that fits into socialist principles.

Our dear leader, comrade Kim Chong-il pointed out as follows:

"Only if we construct a strong, self-reliant national economy, that will develop as planned, can we guarantee political independence; establish a strong material and technical basis for socialism; and display the superiority of the socialist system by enhancing the materialistic welfare of the people." (from "Socialism of Our Own Style Centered Around the Popular Mass Is Bound to Succeed." a 32 page monogram.)

Our party has always strongly supported and protected the people's independent demands and interests in leading economic construction according to the basic principles of socialism. Our party principles are manifested in resolving all the problems arising from the economic construction according to the principle of independence and planning.

Socialism and capitalism have differences in the quality of the economy. In the capitalist economy, which is based on a privately owned production means, anarchy prevails because of the monopolistic capitalists' greed to squeeze the maximum profit out of the people. Furthermore, a dependent economy can only feed foreign monopolistic capitalists. Such an economic system is fundamentally against the interests of the popular masses. Its developmental speed is slower than the socialist economy, which is developing independently as planned.

Although imperialists and their puppets are advertising the materialistic prosperity of the capitalist countries and the superiority of the capitalist economic system, they are just deceptive talk. Only an economy that is developing as planned, based on the independent basis will emerge an economy that matches the requirement of our time and independent aim of the popular mass.

Our party has been firmly maintaining the principles of a self-reliant national economy by displaying the superiority of the socialist planned economy. Thus the party has reinforced the economic power and has been continuously enhancing the cultural and material welfare of the people. Reality clearly shows the justification for the construction of a self-reliant, planned socialist economy.

Our party's principle for constructing a planned, self-reliant national economy is, first of all, to guarantee the political independency of our nation.

It has a paramount significance to firmly maintain the nation's political independence while protecting and maintaining the people's independent demands and interests. People who are deprived of political independence cannot escape from the status of slavery. A nation's political independence is guaranteed by a strong economic as well as self-reliant national power.

Strong economic power, which is the material basis for political independence, can be established only from a planned economy on the basis of self-reliance. Socialist economy can be strong only when the government, having a total control over the general human and material resources, constructs the economy in a way that is suited for the particular situation of the nation and the people's interests. Only if we construct an economy that is self-reliant and planned nationwide by considering every aspect, can even a small confusion and imbalance in the economy be prevented. Furthermore, such an economy can develop independent economic relations with foreign nations.

It is our party's consistent policy that reinforces economic exchange and cooperation with all the nations that maintain friendly relations with our nation, based on the principle of equality and reciprocity. In order to develop foreign trades based on the principle of filling each other's needs, in line with the party's intention, we have to plan even more precisely in every area of the economy. Thus economic reserve and potential should be utilized to the maximum extent. Reinforcing economic self-reliance is urgently necessary in order to thoroughly destroy the cunning and mean attempts by the imperialists, who want to subordinate foreign countries economically as well as politically under the disguise of "economic cooperation" or "aid." The way to protect the self-reliance of a nation and dignity of the people and to successfully continue the great socialist task of establishing a strong economy is to construct a planned, self-reliant economy.

Our party policy for constructing a self-reliant national economy that is developing according to the principles of a planned economy, also helps construct a strong material and technological basis for socialism.

To build a strong material and technological basis for socialism is an important task in solidifying the established socialist system and in providing the people with a self-reliant, creative, materialistic and working life environment. In order to satisfactorily carry out this task, productivity should be enhanced quickly. Although the establishment of a socialist system opens a wide road for productivity improvement, it does not achieve this by itself. The problem lies in what principles will be used and how the economic construction will proceed.

The development of a self-reliant and planned economy, under the leadership of the working class party, guarantees thorough display of the superiority of socialism over capitalism. An unplanned and dependent economy cannot satisfy material and technological means necessary for production and construction and the people's demand. Furthermore, it cannot escape from the inflence of worldwide economic crises. It is very harmful to rely on foreign materials and technology and to have an illusion of advanced technology in capitalist nations when constructing the socialist economy. In any society, those who are responsible for the development of production and technology are the working popular mass. In the socialist society, workers, who are the masters in their nation, have a keen interest in the development of production and in science and technology. Therefore, if the nation, having a full control over the task of improving production and technology, promotes economic development in a planned manner, according to the demand of socialist economic principles, and utilize its people's revolutionary zeal and creative power, it can develop its economy at a speed much faster than the capitalist countries.

Our party has prepared a strong socialist material and technological basis by accelerating chucheization, modernization and scientification (?) of the people's economy and by equipping all aspects of the people's economy, including heavy and light industries, and agriculture, with modern technology in order to surely achieve economic self-reliance. As a result, we are able to accomplish anything, if we want to, with our own resources, technology, and power. Our vast monumental accomplishments, including the construction of the flood gate in the west coast, with our own power and technology are the manifestation of our will power to establish a self-reliant economy. With an economy that develops as planned, on the basis of self-reliance, our people's working life is joyful and fruitful, and the necessities of daily life are fullfilled even more smoothly.

Our party clearly identified the way to pursue economic construction according to the basic socialist principles. Unified and detailed planning is our party's consistent policy for developing a planned economy.

The development of an overall planned economy of our nation, under the unified guidance of our government, is an inevitable demand made by the development of the socialist economy. In a socialist society, where the means of production belong to the people, the nation can plan details of the economic development in a unified manner, as we should. No matter how large the economic scale grows and how much the planned goals are increased, the economy that has been planned in detail in a unified manner can flourish by preventing even the minutest stagnation and confusion. Thus it can properly satisfy various material and cultural demands of the people.

It is important for economic and management functionaries to continuously enhance their economic knowledge and management skills, together with the enhancement of the spirit of accepting the absoluteness and unconditionality of the party's plans for pursuing the unified and detailed economic plan. Only when the collective guidance of the party committees is reinforced in every aspect of the people's economy, in accordance with the demand of the Taean work system, and when the job-related political qualification of the functionaries and workers is enhanced in every aspect of the people's economy, can the superiority of our party's policy in its unified and detailed plan be continuously displayed.

The thorough accomplishment of our party's construction of a self-reliant, national economy is an important demand for reinforcing the nation's economy with our own power.

Our party's firm line in constructing a self-reliant, national economy, ever since it began to contruct a new society, has been proven in action. Under the guidance of the party, our people were able to successfully establish an integrated and multi-faceted economy, based on our own resources by thoroughly materializing the self-reliant, national economy at every step and stage of the revolutionary development.

The party line of constructing self-reliance of our national economy is a strategic one, that we have to firmly adhere to during the whole process of constructing the socialist economy. Only if we do so until the end, can we rapidly improve our economy under any circumstance; reinforce the political, economic, and military power of our nation; establish an everlasting prosperity of our people; and continuously improve our people's welfare.

The important task that our party proposed in materializing the line of establishing a self-reliant national socialist economy, is to continuously and forcefully accelerate the chucheization, modernization, and scientification of the people's economy. Only when we successfully accomplish this task, can we reinforce the nature of self-reliance and chuche of the national economy; continuously modernize the technical equipment of our economy; make scientific all the activities related to production and management; and thus reinforce the economic power of our nation in various ways.

The major ground for the socialist economic system in our country is continuously and solidly developing the reason why the people are enjoying an even distribution of wealth and rewarding material and cultural life is that our party is thoroughly materializing socialist principles in its economic construction. Only when we continue with the thorough materialization of the party principles for developing a planned and self-reliant economy, will the superiority of our distinctive socialism be highly displayed.

South Korea

Russia Insists International Commission Study KAL Downing

SK0312013092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0033 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Moscow, Dec. 3 (OANA-YONHAP)—Russia insisted again Wednesday that an international commission convene in Moscow next week to investigate the 1983 downing of a South Korean airliner by a Soviet fighter. Nikolai Soloviev, the Foreign Ministry's director-general for Asia and the Pacific, met with Korean Ambassador Hong Sun-yong and asked that Seoul participate in the commission, according to Korean officials.

Yuriy Petrov, chief of the Russian presidential administration, said the tapes from the flight data recorder of KAL [Korean Air Lines] 007 should be handed over to a commission comprising Korea, Russia, the United States, Japan and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Petrov refused to turn over the material to Korea first. Hong repeated Seoul's demand to examine the tapes before they were turned over to the commission, but Soloviev said Moscow's position could hardly be changed considering the opinions of the other involved countries. The shootdown killed all 269 people aboard, including American and Japanese passengers.

In a related move, the Russian Foreign Ministry in a statement Wednesday said: "(Russian President Boris Yeltsin) handed over the magnetic records of intercom talks by members of the Boeing-747 crew and the flight date recorders themselves decoded by the time of the Russian president's visit to Seoul, to confirm the fact of their existence and as a gesture of goodwill.

"The Russian side, in accordance with international rules for the investigation of such incidents, is prepared to provide such a multilateral commission with the originals of the materials for their decoding and analysis.

"We suggested that the commission's first meeting be held in Moscow on Dec. 8-10," it said.

Foreign Minister: ICAO Must Lead Probe

SK0312020092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0146 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 3 (OANA-YONHAP)—The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), not Russia, should lead the investigation into the downing of a Korean air line (KAL) plane by a Soviet fighter in 1983, South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Thursday.

"ICAO must lead the investigation in order to guarantee fairness and objectivity," Yi said in the first official response to Russia's proposal to lead the investigation by convening an international commission in Moscow next week. "There were mishandled parts on our side during the process of receiving the black box materials from Moscow. The government apologizes for the confusion from the mishandling," Yi told a press conference.

Seoul had assumed that the black boxes Russian President Boris Yeltsin handed over contained the critical tapes from the flight data recorder (FDR) because Seoul had repeatedly demanded it, Yi said.

"It was a complete letdown to our people, and we apologize," he said.

Assailant Mugs Russian Ambassador's Wife Near Embassy

SK0312010192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0010 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—The wife of the Russian ambassador, Mrs. Alexandr Panov, was mugged by a Korean man in an alleyway near the Russian Embassy in Socho-dong, southern Seoul, Wednesday evening, police said.

Mrs. Panov, 47, was not hurt, but lost a handbag containing her diplomatic identification card and 12,000 won in cash, police said.

She told police that the incident occurred at about 6:30 PM While she was walking home, carrying some groceries she had bought at a supermarket about three kilometers from the Russian Embassy.

A lanky man who appeared to be in his late 20s dashed from behind her and snatched the handbag from her shoulder and fled, Mrs. Panov said. Police were looking for a man who fits the description provided by Mrs. Panov.

Foreign Minister Expresses 'Unequivocal Support' for Palestinian Rights

SK3011025392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0150 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea expressed complete support Monday for peace in the

Middle East and for recognition of the Palestinian people's right to national independence and self-government.

Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok sent a message commemorating international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people at the United Nations, stating Korea's "unequivocal support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people" and expressing "earnest hope for the peace in the Middle East."

"...I would like to reiterate the position of my government that the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people recognized in the relevant United Nations resolutions, including the right to self-determination and establishment of an independent state, should be fully respected," the message said.

Kim Chong-il's Bodyguard Troops Reportedly Include Nuclear Unit

SK2911091992 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 26 Nov 92

[Text] North Korea has bodyguard troops under the direct control of Kim Chong-il to strengthen his political base and these troops have a nuclear arms unit, according to a Japanese publication citing a North Korean soldier who defected.

The Japanese weekly BUNGEI SHUNJU, in its latest edition issued today, carried an article by Mr. Han Chol-kye, who defected to the former Soviet Union. The report asserted that Mr. Han was a member of the nuclear arms unit of Kim Chong-il's bodyguard troops and that this unit was called by a code name only.

Foreign Minister Proposes Upgrading Asian-Pacific Cooperation

SK2811100092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0922 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 28 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Saturday efforts are being made to elevate the ministerial conference of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) into an APEC summitry.

Speaking at a meeting of the Pusan World Exchanges Council, Minister Yi said the elevation has in principle been agreed to by a number of APEC member countries including Korea.

"If and when an APEC summitry were realized, it would lead to further development of the APEC into a sort of regional economic cooperation system," Yi said. He said that since it is impossible to form an exclusive economic bloc in Asia and the Pacific because of a wide gap in economic development and difference in cultural and historical background among regional countries, the Asia-Pacific zone is a region most ideal for the development of the free trade system. The foreign minister emphasized that if only to keep the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) from dividing the Pacific economy into two, the role of the APEC cannot be too emphasized.

On the issue of security cooperation in the Asia-Pacific area, Minister Yi said, "we can first begin with multilateral security dialogues." When a common area of understanding is formed through this process and conditions ripen, a framework of multilateral security cooperation could possibly be forged on a sub-region basis in Northeast Asia or somewhere else in the Asia-Pacific region, Minister Yi observed.

President No Appoints New Prosecutor General

SK3011054792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0526 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u has named Kim Tu-hui, deputy head of the supreme prosecutor's office, the nation's new prosecutor-general, No's spokesman said Monday. Kim will officially become the chief of the law enforcement authority after the cabinet endorses No's decision Dec. 3. Kim is succeeding Chong Ku-yong whose two-year tenure expires this week.

Kim, 51, is a native of Sanchong, South Kyongsang Province. He graduated from the college of law, Seoul National University. He formerly served as a prosecutor with the public prosecutor's office in Seoul and in Kwangju, a presidential secretary for justice and inspection, and as the chief of the central investigation bureau at the supreme prosecutor's office.

Defense Ministry Announces Armed Forces Promotions

SK2811072192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0641 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 28 (YONHAP)—Five commodores and Air Force brigadier generals have been promoted to rear admirals and major generals, and 73 Army and Air Force colonels and Navy captains to brigadier generals and commodores, the National Defense Ministry announced Saturday.

The five officers who earned their second star included three rear admirals and two Air Force major generals, and those given their first star included 47 army colonels and 13 each Navy captains and Air Force colonels.

The army said that of the 47 colonels promoted to the rank of brigadier general, 36 graduated from the military academy, four were commissioned through the ROTC program and the remaining seven graduated from other military schools.

The Defense Ministry is expected to effect the promotion of Army Maj. generals and tri-service three- and four-star officers around Dec. 10.

Kim Tae-chung Vows To Form Group of Former Presidents

SK2811052792 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 Nov 92 p 2

[By staff reporter Sim Chae-yun]

[Text] Kimchon, Kyongsang-pukto [North Kyongsang Province]—Kim Tae-chung, presidential candidate of the Democratic Party [DP], yesterday pledged that he would form a national elders' group consisting of former presidents including Choe Kyu-ha, Chon Tu-hwan, and No Tae-u to hear their opinions in the execution of state affairs. Campaigning in this province, power base of the current and preceding regimes, Kim held a series of outdoor rallies in Waegwan, Kumi and this city.

Kim Yong-sam of the Democratic Liberal Party and Chong Chu-yong of the United People's Party hit the province on the same day to drum up support in the most populous province in the nation. In the campaign speech, Kim of the DP underlined the need for change of government this time, which he said is the call of the times.

"If elected president, I will form a pan-national cabinet to realize grand reconciliation, transcending classes and political parties," he said. He said he would not make any political retaliation if he comes to power by saying, "Let by-gones be by-gones." He went on to say that he would set the first two years of his office for political cease-fire in a bid to put an end to the old-fashioned politics tainted by conflicts and confrontation.

Wary of public criticism over the chronic regionalism, he said he would mobilize every effort to eradicate the parochialism and would not hold any massive campaign rallies in Cholla provinces, his main support base.

On the basis of reconciliation, he will elevate the nation to be one of the eight strongest nations in the world. He would realize the dream of national reunification by the time when the five-year term of office of next president ends, he said. In a bid to woo voters' support in the region, Kim came forward with an array of campaign pledges including steps to develop the less-developed northern Kyongsang Province. In a rally in Kumi, he promised to build highways linking cities in the province as well as expediting the construction of the highway linking Taegu to Chunchon via Andong.

Well aware that the city is an industrial complex crowded with small and medium companies, Kim renewed pledges to vitalize small companies so that they are the foundation of the national economy. In a rally in Kimchon city, he said he would set up a university in this city as well as a massive shopping mall to develop this town as a center of education and economy in the northern part of the province.

Government Restricts Exports of Semiconductors to U.S.

SK3011054092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0507 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (YONHAP)—The Trade and Industry Ministry said Monday it was restricting semiconductor exports to the United States and seven Asian countries, in addition to the European Community. The ministry said the action was taken in the wake of the U.S. government's decision to impose high anti-dumping tariffs on South Korean semiconductors.

The South Korean Government thus far restricted exports of three different kinds of semiconductors (D-RAM) to the EC by requiring their exporters to get recommendations from the Korea semiconductor industry association. The government plans to apply this rule to exports to the United States, and seven countries which are being used as roundabout routes for exports to the United States, the ministry said. The seven are Taiwan, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

The government action, which goes into effect Monday, is aimed at fostering a conducive atmosphere for a favorable settlement of the dumping disputes with the United States by showing Korean efforts to establish order in the semiconductor trade, Ministry officials said.

Kia Motors To Provide Auto Assembly Technology to Iran

SK3011031892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0224 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (YONHAP)—Kia Motors Corp. will provide Iranian automaker Saipa Co. with assembling technology from September next year, a company spokesman said Monday. Kia will be the first South Korean automaker to be paid a royalty, he said.

Under the agreement signed Sunday by Kia group chairman Kim Son-hong and Saipa president M. Gharavi, the Iranian automaker will pay Kia a training fee of 4 percent for each car it makes, the spokesman said. Saipa is expected to complete building a factory with a capacity of 50,000 cars a year in August 1993 with technological assistance from Kia and start production and sales the following month.

Kia, which will export its Pride small cars to Iran until August 1993, is determined to localize Saipa's output up to 60 percent in five years time for more active technology transfer, the spokesman said. The assembly line in Iran will turn out five-door Prides and Pride Betas. Saipa currently makes 10,000 small and large cars a year with France's Renault Co. and Japan's Nissan, but will break ties with Renault to produce and sell Kia cars.

Private Sector Joins Jilin Province Airport Project

SK3011101092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0911 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (YONHAP)—South Korean companies are to take part in the 1.6 billion-U.S.-dollar construction of an international airport and recreational facilities in Yanbian, Jilin Province, in a joint venture with China. Gao Yan, governor of Jilin Province, met Saturday with Son Sok-ho, president of South Korea's Mankwang Development Co. and Kim Kae-chin, president of Korea's Taishin International Co., in Changchun, Jilin, and agreed in principle to build an international airport, hotels and other facilities in Yanbian for completion in 1999, a Mankwang spokesman said Monday.

The PEOPLE'S DAILY, the organ of the Chinese Communist Party, reported Saturday that a negotiation was under way to build the airport in Yanbian under a joint-venture with South Korea's Mankwang, he said.

The Chinese and Korean sides will start a feasibility study on the project between the end of this month and early next month and each contribute 50 million dollars in March next year to inaugurate in Yanbian a company to manage the airport construction, the spokesman said.

Of the 1.6 billion dollars in construction cost, around 300-400 million dollars will be spent to build a hotel and a ski resort on the Chinese side of Mt. Paektu and a golf course near Yanji city. The biggest Sino-Korean joint venture to date attracts special attention because Yanbian stands at the center of the Tumen River basin, which will be developed under a United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the spokesman said. He said that 1.5 billion dollars will be borrowed from Japan's Mitsui Co. and the export-import Bank of Japan for repayment at a 5.3 percent interest in 12 years with a five-year grace period. The bank of China will guarantee the loan, he added.

Finance Minister Notes Necessity of Financial Reforms

SK0112062092 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 1 Dec 92 p 10

[Text] Finance Minister Yi Yong-man said yesterday Korea needs a new financial system through a comprehensive reform. In a speech at Yonsei University, he said the government will move away from protecting domestic banks to implement a competition-encouraging financial policy to sharpen the international competitive edge of Korean financial institutions.

Yi said the focus of financial liberalization should be placed on reforming the financial market through encouragement of competition among financial institutions. He said at this stage, the core focus of financial liberalization is generally interpreted to mean the government's softening or abolishing of regulations and supervision.

Yi said the government easing or scrapping financial regulations is just "the start of financial liberalization, not the financial liberalization itself." He urged financial institutions to abolish competition-restrictive cartel-like system and practices. Korean banks should improve credit screening techniques and financial institutions should cultivate professionals and expand the computerization system.

To create a climate conductive to financial liberalization, Yi said Korean companies and people should restrain themselves from unnecessary investment and overconsumption, which tend to push up money market rates, Yi said.

The general public also should discard the prevailing sentiment that the government should rescue "uncompetitive companies." He added that emergence of new competitive firms and collapse of uncompetitive firms must naturally take place in the Korean financial market.

Yi said Korean commercial banks are under too much pressure to put priority on promoting public interest, rather than on pursuing autonomous business operation. Such a prevailing feeling is the "most serious stumbling block to financial liberalization," he said. For example, in Western countries, banks are not required to lend a certain portion of their loans to small- and medium-sized firms. Furthermore, the government is not obligated to ask banks not to expand consumer loans. Financial institutions are not forced to buy a wide variety of state and public bonds, he said.

Yi said the government will completely review the current "low-interest policy loan system" to create an environment conducive to interest rate liberalization.

The minister said the financial market-opening will be conducted without "too much haste and too much hesitation and through harmonization with the other policies." He also noted financial liberalization should be implemented with three principles—step-by-step, self-responsibility and self- discipline. He said economic stability is the key to financial reform. Yi noted that the financial market-opening should be implemented in a flexible way.

Yi said the success of financial market-opening depends on how to control its pace. To much haste and too much hesitation in opening the financial market will strain the economic activities, he said. He called upon Korean policy markers, financiers, corporate executives and consumers to change their way of thinking to modernize the Korean financial system.

"But in reality, we can not expect improvement of operation of financial institutions and change of attitude among economic players in so short a period of time. Thus it is necessary for Korea to implement financial liberalization and the market-opening program on step-by-step basis," he said. The minister also said his ministry will conduct a wholesale tax reform next year.

Companies Seek Role in PRC's Telephone Modernization Plan

SK0112021392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0124 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 1 (YONHAP)—China is modernizing its telephone system, and South Korean companies are eager for a slice of the 37 billion-U.S.-dollar (2.9 trillion won) pie, a Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA) official said Tuesday. China's goal is to expand from 12 million telephones at the end of 1991 to 96 million by 2000, raising the distribution rate to 75 percent and making international calls available in 70 percent of the country.

The project is being carried out on a province by province basis, with Guangdong spending 147 million dollars this year, the KOTRA official said.

The communist country is eyeing an optic fiber cable network connecting Korea, Japan and Europe via the former Soviet republics after setting up optic fiber networks in major Chinese cities in each Province.

China is considering a research complex for ultra-speed fax machines and mobile communications systems in Weihai city in Shangdong to support the development of relevant products, said the official, who wouldn't give his name.

The modernization project will boost demand for communications equipment, making it promising for Korean companies to advance there more actively as they have a competitive edge in the field, he said. Korea and China agreed to link their countries using an optic fiber cable during the diplomatic normalization talks in August, and Korea telecom is seeking ways to translate it into action.

Goldstar Information and Communications Ltd. and Shandong signed a pact to set up a joint-venture factory to make time division exchanges (TDX) in early September. Samsung Electronics Co. is moving to export transmission equipment to China and has agreed to build a joint-venture TDX factory in Shandong.

PRC Agrees To Exchange Patent Information

SK3011060692 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE in Korean 28 Nov 92 p 8

[Text] Patent cooperation between the ROK and PRC will be earnestly carried out soon. According to the Patent Office, ROK Patent Office Administrator Kim Tae-chun and PRC State Patent Office Director Gao Lulin recently met in Beijing and agreed to cooperate in promoting the mutual exchange of patent information and manpower between the two countries. In talks, they respectively signed and exchanged the Record of Documents on Exchanges and Cooperation.

The two countries' patent offices agreed to mutually exchange information and materials related to industrial property rights, which include patent abstracts. They also agreed to mutually cooperate with each other to develop manpower through exchanges of employees and experts from their patent offices.

Accordingly, the ROK Patent Office has decided to send its employees to the PRC State Patent Office next year to foster their development as experts in industrial property rights.

The two countries' patent offices have agreed to strengthen their mutual cooperation and support in the international arena. In particular, the PRC patent office has been recently designated as an organization to conduct international and preliminary investigations into international patent applications to the World Intellectual Property Organization. As a result of the exchange of the Record of Documents between the two countries, domestic enterprises can now receive support from the PRC patent office when they apply for an international patent.

They have also agreed to mutually cooperate with each other to efficiently use the right of industrial property in order to promote a technology transfer and joint ventures between the two countries' enterprises. As a result, this is expected to greatly benefit the two countries' economic cooperation.

In particular, the PRC has so far asked the ROK for relevant materials and information, as it did during material patent negotiations with the United States. Taking this opportunity, the PRC has sought plans to cooperate with the ROK. As a result, the two countries' patent offices could exchange the Record of Documents as a result of the establishment of diplomatic relations.

In addition, the two countries' enterprises are rapidly making applications to the other party's government for patent and trademark. Approximately 216 applications and 85 registrations were made in China by the end of August. In addition, approximately 177 applications and 150 registrations were made in the ROK as of the end of 1990.

Customs Talks Scheduled

SK3011024892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0147 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (YONHAP)—Customs officials of South Korea and China will draft an agreement to expand bilateral cooperation and discuss exchange of information from Dec. 2-8 in Seoul, the Korea Customs Administration said Monday.

General customs administration director Dai Jie and three other Chinese officials will come for talks with Korean customs administrator Paek Won-ku and other officials. China initiated the talks. Special attention is paid to the talks as two-way trade is swelling and direct trading is taking the place of trading via Hong Kong, Singapore or Japan. Seoul and Beijing normalized ties on Aug. 24, he said.

Also on the table will be matters concerning certificates of origin, exchange of information on drug smuggling, and establishment of sisterhood ties between customs houses. Korean officials will raise the issue of China's evading tariffs by disguising the origin of agriculture exports as North Korea, sources said.

Inchon and Pusan customs will seek sisterhood relations with Tianjin customs and other customs houses in China for exchanges of personnel. Korea and China will draft an agreement on customs cooperation during the upcoming talks and will ink it early next year, the sources said.

China To Join Double Taxation Prevention Talks

SK3011025792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0150 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and China hold their first round of talks on an agreement for avoidance of double taxation Dec. 1-8 in Beijing, the Finance Ministry said Monday.

Om Nak-yong, the ministry's director-general for tax affairs, will head the Korean side and Yang Chongchun, vice commissioner of the state tax bureau, will represent China. The two countries normalized ties Aug. 24 and already have trade and investment guarantee pacts.

Central Bank Governor Seeks To Liberalize Interest Rates

SK3011014792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0115 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (YONHAP)—Cho Sun, governor of the Bank of Korea, said on Sunday that the central bank would decide whether to lower its rediscount rate or its regulated interest rate after it had analyzed the figures from the third quarter. "It is my unchanged conviction that interest rates should be liberalized at an early date," said Cho, who has vigorously opposed making cuts instead. Finance Minister Yi Yong-man has hinted, however, that he will cut the regulated interest rate in December in consultation with Cho.

Cho, returning from a six-day trip to China, told reporters at Kimpo International Airport that he would gladly meet with Yi if he were asked to. The central bank would express its position on cutting the regulated interest rate after studying the finance, Gross National product in the third quarter, and other economic conditions, he said.

Cho's remarks are interpreted as hinting at flexibility concerning a drop in the rediscount rate and the regulated interest rate.

Container Ship Trade to Russia Increases

SK2811025192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0202 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 28 (YONHAP)—Ships sailing directly between South Korea and Russia carried 13,354 containers destined for the former Soviet republic in the first nine months of the year, industry sources said.

This is an average of 1,483.7 containers a month and compares with 7,304 containers or 1,217.3 a month in the second half of 1991, the sources said. The direct line was opened in July last year. There was a gross imbalance, however, with 11,208 containers going to Russia and just 2,146 traveling in the other direction. Of the containers shipped to Russia, 7,041 contained consumer products bought with tied loans from Korea. Of 2,123 containers delivered to Russia in January, 1,737 (82 percent) contained goods purchased with the loans, but the figure fell in September to 48 (4.3 percent) of 1,129 containers.

The steep drop in containerized trade was caused by the export-import Bank of Korea's refusal to approve shipments to Russia because of Moscow's shortage of foreign currency. The bank last approved 470 million U.S. dollars of shipments late last year. While trade on tied loans dwindled, barter trade was vitalized, the sources said.

Government To Ease Control of Land Purchases by Foreigners

SK2711123992 Seoul YONHAP in English 1116 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 27 (YONHAP)—The government has decided to ease control of foreigners' acquisition of lands and allow them to obtain lands for use in high-tech service and insurance businesses effective Dec. 1. The Home Affairs Ministry said Friday the decision is based on the results of the recent Korea-U.S. negotiations to improve industrial environment.

A ministry official said land acquisition permits will be granted when their businesses would serve to accelerate transfer of advanced know-how to Korea or to advance comparable Korean businesses' competitiveness. These business lines would include technical service, computer facilities consultancy, creation of information data base, development of software and system, and insurance. A ministry official said the government, however, will continue to control foreigners' land acquisition for other purposes.

"Even if the control is to be eased further in the future, it would be made under the principle of reciprocity and in a way that can be conducive to national economic development," he said. The official said that the government policy is to deal with the issue of totally opening land ownership to foreigners on a step-by- step basis taking into account the people's sentiments and the country's limited lands.

So far, foreigners' purchase of lands has been allowed under the principle of reciprocity when lands were needed by foreign diplomatic missions, social or cultural organizations, some manufacturing firms, banks and hotels.

As of the end of last June, 17.71 million square meters of lands have been acquired by foreigners in 4,060 cases, which included 1.43 million square meters by Americans, 662,000 square meters by Chinese, 396,000 square meters by Japanese and 12,000 square meters by Britons. The total also included 14.49 million square meters owned by foreign joint-venture firms.

* President No's Visit to Japan Pondered

* Real Motive Questioned

932C0037A Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 23 Oct 92 p 3

[By reporter Yun Kuk-han: "Foreign Visit Without Pending Issues To Discuss"]

[Text] There is an increasing curiosity about the purpose and background of President No's abrupt visit to Japan scheduled in early November.

It is because there are apparently no special issues to be discussed between the two nations and because it is unusual for a lame duck president to visit foreign countries unless there is a crisis.

No's visit to Japan is known to have been initiated by Chongwadae [presidential office]. A diplomatic source indicated that "Even some of the Japanese politicians are surprised at the request to visit Japan by President No, who has only three months of his presidency left."

The Chonnwadae officials, in an effort to alleviate the peoples's curiosity and suspicions surrounding the abrupt visit, disclosed that the visit will be only for one day, to be made using the presidential plane, not a specially chartered plane used for more formal foreign visits, accompanied by a minimum number of dignitaries. They also emphasized that this will be the first informal practical foreign visit by the 6th Republic by saying that the summit meeting will be held in Osaka, not in Tokyo, omitting ceremonial formalities.

Kim Chong-hwi, assistant to the president for Security Affairs, indicated that the purpose of the visit is to discuss a new order in Northeast Asia in the light of the presidential election in the U.S. and the changes in the neighboring nations, including the reshuffle in the leadership of China. Realizing that the discussion of the political situation in Northeast Asia is too abstract for the purpose of a summit meeting, Kim also said that, "Summit meetings can be held without pending issues." Kim indicated that we have to change our style of diplomacy into that which is more informal but practical, like the European nations, whose heads discuss various matters through informal one-day visits. Kim's remarks are equivalent to acknowledging that there are no urgent issues to be discussed between the two nations.

There may, of course, be some significant issues that may be disclosed after the meeting. The people have seen that some of the 6th Republic's diplomacy in the past were merely result-oriented "surprise shows."

Here are possible issues to be discussed by the two heads of states: trade deficit and technology transfer; normalizing diplomatic relations between Japan and North Korea; and North Korea's nuclear weapons development program.

These issues have been continuously dealt with by working level officials between the two nations and no significant breakthroughs have been reported. Therefore, they are not considered to be urgent issues requiring a summit meeting.

Other potential issues, that have flatly been denied by both Chongwadae and government officials, can be cooperation on security matters between the two nations and the purchase of Japanese Sinkansen (bullet trains) for the high-speed train project in Korea.

Although cooperation between the two nations on security issues has been considered to be possible when Army Chief of Staff, Kim Chin-yong, recently met with the Japanese Defense Agency Minister in Japan, presidential assistant, Kim, denied the possibility of discussing the issues at this summit meeting.

There is no convincing argument for the visit to relate to the high-speed train project either, since Korea is a potential buyer who has less urgency to visit the potential seller.

Some observers are expecting the summit meeting to finalize the amount of compensation for the "comfort women" during World War II, that the Japanese government has initiated.

Others are expecting the two nations to finetune their position towards Russia on the occasion of Yeltsin's visit to Korea, scheduled on 18 November.

All these speculations are considered not to be too convincing, however. The most convincing justification may be that despite the lack of pending issues, the visit will be a practical diplomacy where the two heads will discuss various problems, including political changes in the surrounding nations.

If this is the case, President No cannot escape from the usual criticism by the people that he is wasting too much of tax-payers' money without having urgent issues to discuss.

Since he was elected president, No made 11 foreign trips, including the visit to China in late September. Some of his previous trips have been criticized as having a weak justification.

According to the information recently disclosed by the Economic Planning Board, the total expense related to the president's foreign trips amount to 65 billion won [approximately US $85 million]. The president spent an average of 6.5 billion won of the tax-payers' money for each trip.

Summit meetings should be held as many times as possible if necessary. The problem is that the tax-payers' money is wasted if the meetings have weak justification.

* Sudden Decision Eyed

932C0037B Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 23 Oct 92 p 3

[Editorial: "Abrupt Summit Meeting Between Korea and Japan"]

[Text] Summit meetings should have sufficient justification to be held. It is because summit meetings are different from conventional ways of conducting diplomacy. It is especially so between Japan and Korea, which have been maintaining delicate relations. Summit meetings for mere exchange of opinions and promotion of friendship are not welcomed by the people.

President No Tae-u is scheduled to visit Japan in November to meet with Japanese Prime Minister Miyazawa. What is the main purpose of his visit? There should be sufficient justification for this such an abrupt visit by the president, who has only four months left of his presidency. Japan should also have enough justification for accepting No's visit. There has been no explanation so far to justify such a summit meeting, however.

Of course, frequent meetings between the two heads of states might produce mutually beneficial results, especially because the two nations have many pending issues that require cooperation. In that respect, it may be worthwhile to try an informal but practical approach. The mere change of diplomatic style cannot be justified as the major reason for a summit meeting, however. It is because there are many pending issues between the two nations, including the trade deficit, "comfort women" issue, and technology transfer. Formality is formality and it cannot control the content.

There may be other undisclosed pending issues between the two nations. Examples are remarks by Japanese leaders that irritated the feelings of the Korean people, and the sensitivity that Japan has shown to the normalization of relations between Korea and China. Sometimes, issues that did not surface can cause a harmful effect on the relations between the heads of states, resulting in diplomatic difficulties. If one of the objectives in normalizing relations with China was to give pressure to Japan, the sensitive reaction by Japan is not a surprize. Diplomats should keep in mind that there are always parties other than merely the two parties directly involved in diplomacy.

It is our impression that the proposed summit meeting is to discuss issues that have not yet surfaced, rather than to resolve the pending issues that the people are aware of. This impression is supported by the government's explanation of the purpose of the visit to exchange opinions or to look for a means of coping with the political situation in Northeast Asia after normalizing relations between Korea and China and also with the possible change in the U.S. after its presidential election. The government has a different purpose as well. It has a possible role as mediator.

An example of a mediator's role is that to be played should the Japanese government request that Korea convey the Japanese position on the Kuril Islands, that Japan claims as its territory, to Yeltsin when he visits Korea in November. A new government has its own new diplomatic agenda. The 6th Republic's responsibility is to wrap up the diplomacy that it has been working on and smoothly transfer it to the new government, rather than initiate a new diplomatic action. It is because the lame duck government does not have any strong negotiating power over its counterpart.

We cannot deny that the two governments are facing a delicate situation. For instance, the general feeling of the Korean people, who have been watching the progress of the Japanese government's effort to settle the "comfort women" issue, is full of resentment. The military policy of the economic superpower, Japan, and its arrogant attitudes make the relations between the two nations uneasy. It is doubtful whether the result of the summit meeting, that was requested by Chongwadae, would be positive.

* Annual Security Consultation Meeting With U.S.

932C0028A Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 9, 10, 13 Oct 92

[Article in three installments by reporter Kim Chae-hong from Washington and San Francisco: "ROK-U.S. New Security Strategy"]

[9 Oct 92 p 9]

["'Carrot-and-Stick Response' to N. Korean Nukes"]

[Text] The 24th ROK-U.S. annual security consultation meeting (SCM) adopted a flexible, carrot-and-stick-version two-pronged strategy on security for the Korean peninsula and Northeast Asia before it came to a close early in the morning on 9 October (Korean Time) in Washington.

The action was based on an assessment that while the cold war ideology has been winding down globally in the wake of the disintegration of the former Soviet Union's and East European communist parties and the ROK-China normalization, a threat remains to the local security on the Korean peninsula because of the lingering suspicion over a North Korean nuclear weapons program.

Reflecting this backdrop and the two nations' resolution for pursuing flexible security strategy, the SCM in its joint statement declared that "the ROK-U.S. security cooperation shall be maintained in the direction of contributing to improvement in the North-South relations and to the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula." In other words, they put forth a conciliatory security policy based on a positive assessment of advances made in the North-South dialogue.

At the SCM, ROK and U.S. defense policy authorities agreed that the 13 December North-South Basic Agreement and the 31 December joint denuclearization statement last year marked an important milestone in solving security problems on the Korean peninsula.

Also, in reference to the North Korean actions in signing the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) nuclear safety agreement and agreeing to submit to its inspection, they rated them highly as marking a memorable progress in the situation.

To ensure that this joint assessment of the signs of peace on the peninsula is not taken as a slackening of war deterrence, the two nations' defense authorities reaffirmed the Flexible Deterrence Option (FDO), a new strategy adopted earlier by their Military Committee Meeting (MCM).

Also reaffirmed was a continued freeze on any additional reduction of U.S. troops in Korea. The reaffirmation was part of a tough policy designed to enhance the vigilance over a lingering threat to the local security in the Korean peninsula and Northeast Asia.

Against the widespread speculations, the SCM acted to withhold a decision on resuming the Team Spirit joint exercise in 1993. The action seemed based on "consideration" favoring putting out the carrot first while basically pursuing a carrot-and-stick policy, so as not to provoke North Korea. Originally, the ROK Ministry of National Defense [MND] and the Joint Chiefs of Staff [JCS] had drafted an agreement text to the effect that the exercise "will be resumed in 1993 as scheduled," which was rephrased during the MCM session, however. The rephrased version was: "Preparations for the 1993 Team Spirit exercise will be made as scheduled."

It was because the two sides, while agreeing on the need for putting pressure on North Korea one way or another in connection with the lingering suspicion about its nuclear weapons program, concluded that the new FDO concept, introduced by the United States, can work as a substitute for the resumption of the Team Spirit maneuver.

The two sides agreed on the operational control over the ROK Forces to be returned to the ROK side by the end of 1994. The agreement, although a major breakthrough at the SCM, had nothing to do with the carrot-and-stick policy keynote.

Only in that the operational control at issue had been entrusted to the UN Command [UNC] during the Korean war and later to the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command [CFC], namely, at a time when the cold war confrontation was at its height, and in that its return was put off by another year or so against the expectations of generals in the ROK military, with a vestige of the cold war thus left unremoved, the SCM decision reflects the underlying tone of toughness.

The operational control was transferred to the UNC in July 1950 following the outbreak of the Korean war and later to the CFC in November 1978 upon the latter's creation. It is still held by the CFC.

That is the historical meaning of the SCM decision concerning the transfer of the peacetime, not wartime, operational control back to the ROK military for the first time in 44 years.

Any discussion on the question of wartime operational control has to be preceded by resolutions relating to a revision or abrogation of the ROK-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty, signed in October 1953, and the ROK-U.S. CFC.

The MND policy is not to touch the question of wartime operational control, say, until the end of 1990's.

The reason is that the question directly involves change in the fundamental ROK-U.S. security relations and the nature of the U.S. Forces in Korea [USFK] and, as such, had to be included in an ROK-U.S. long-term joint research program on the direction of security cooperation in the 21st century, which was an item high on the SCM agenda this time.

Following the close of the SCM, an MND official in a policy affairs post emphasized that the agreement that has been reached on the operational control issue does not mean a curtailment of the CFC's basic mission. "There is no change in the CFC's operational control, which covers operational planning, combined field maneuvers, joint intelligence support and other preparations for war even in the peacetime," he said.

The FDO strategy newly adopted by the ROK and U.S. military authorities is viewed positively as an epoch-making move focusing on deterring war while accommodating pressures in the two countries for defense budget cuts. It is designed to reduce regular military strengths and annual field maneuvers for cutbacks on defense budgets, launching flexible deterrents instead.

In the past, there were also strategic concepts of quick response such as Rapid Deployment Force and Swing Strategy but they were all an *ex post facto* measure dealing with a situation after a war has broken out.

In comparison, the FDO marks a basic conceptual shift in that it signifies an immediate deployment of flexible deterrents when a war-threatening crisis begins mounting.

The question is how to determine if a crisis is mounting to call for the deployment of flexible deterrents. It depends on what criteria are used to assess, and make judgement on, intelligence.

A high-ranking JCS intelligence officer disclosed that currently the ROK-U.S. combined intelligence system is using a list of 200 to over 300 items as criteria for judgement on a crisis.

Meanwhile, the FDO is also meant for a preventive move to ensure that concerning the upcoming presidential elections and subsequent transitions in the two countries, no outside forces will make any miscalculations of them as a weakening of war deterrence.

Defense authorities of the two countries, summing up the 1992 SCM, characterized it as having "opened a new era in the ROK-U.S. security cooperation" by fixing the date for the transfer of the peacetime operational control and weighing the coming change in the role of the USFK and the direction of 21st-century security cooperation.

[10 Oct 92 p5]

["Leading Role for ROK Needed in Operations on the Peninsula"]

[Text] As the date for the transfer of the operational control was specified, the 24th SCM inevitably had to move on to the debate on future change in the USFK's role and the present status of the ROK-U.S. combined defense system.

It was not that there was any difference of opinion or friction between the two countries concerning the current combined defense system. But the 40-year-old system—created amid the Cold War environment—needed a retouching, and this prompted the debate.

The point was that even if there were no changes in the fundamental role of the bilateral defense arrangement, the system that became too obsolete to implement it needed a reform to suit the change in the ROK's international status and environment surrounding it.

A look at the allied defense systems of other countries indicates that in the case of the NATO which is led by the U.S. forces, the operational control exercised by the allied forces commander is limited to wartime.

Even Japan, a defeated country in World War II, has peacetime operational control over its forces; only in time of war the operational control over the Japanese Self-Defense Forces is transferred to the U.S. Pacific Command to which the U.S. Forces in Japan [USFJ] belong.

Therefore, it was noted in the debate that the ROK and the United States should also shift into a juxtaposition strategic arrangement in their allied defense arrangement similar to what the NATO and Japan have now. General officers of the ROK Forces have been saying that in no cases other than Korea is the operational control over the national military forces still left in the hands of the allied command even in peacetime.

Only exceptions are rear units such as the 2d Army Command and the Capital Defense Command, which are excluded from the operation control exercised by the ROK-U.S. CFC commander in peacetime.

"While both belong to the U.S. Pacific Command," says a general, "the commander of a corps-level unit in the USFJ is a lieutenant general, but in the USFK's case, a four-star general commands an army," noting that "this is one of the factors causing the delay in the transfer of the operational control back to the ROK Forces."

A lieutenant general of the ROK Army, an advocate of the return of the operational control, conceded that "our intelligence gathering capability and self-support rates in munitions constitute the biggest obstacle to our regaining the operational control."

Of the two factors cited by him, the self-support rates in munitions are making the earlier transfer more difficult.

Korea can produce its own missiles and tanks, and now has the capability of building submarines for itself; in ammunition, however, the self-support rates are less than 10 percent.

In the cases of such countries as Israel, Taiwan and Saudi Arabia, even if they have no munitions factories of their own, they have no problems securing war supplies thanks to their ample foreign exchange holdings.

These countries, whose security situations are often compared to ours, indeed depend on imports for munitions but, in the realm of intelligence-gathering, they have developed systems to meet their needs for themselves, thus building self-reliant defenses.

Arguing with logic like this, generals of the ROK Forces insist that the transfer of the operational control and "modernization" of the combined defense system has become necessary and an adjustment in the status of the USFK unavoidable.

This is in a sense a natural outcome of the collapse of the cold war order, the change in the U.S. military strategy and the growth of the ROK national strength.

Most important in this respect is Washington's review of the role of its military forces stationed overseas and the change in its military strategy.

First Assistant Vice Foreign Minister Sin Ki-pok, who was a member of the ROK delegation to the SCM, said that he had "felt that the U.S. security strategy was undergoing a big change."

Suggestions that the U.S. security strategy has entered a transition period were contained in a Rand Corporation report, "New Strategy in the Pacific and Small-Scale Military Strength," published in part on 15 September as a result of research on military services commissioned by the U.S. Department of Defense [DOD].

The report recalls that the Nunn-Warner program containing USFK reduction plans was approved by Congress in November 1989, and that a DOD report, "East Asia Strategic Initiative (EASI)" listing its implementation measures, was worked out in April 1990. It then notes that important changes that came to the Asian-Pacific region in particular in the subsequent two and a half years have made further implementation of the existing policies impossible.

Listed among those important changes are: the collapse of the former Soviet Union, Japan's advances as an economic and technological giant, the world economic trends toward blocs and the economy-first policies of individual countries, the political and economic confusion in communist countries in Asia, and readjustments of U.S. alliances with countries in the region.

Based on this assessment, the RAND report recommends, as new strategy, Proportional Engagement and continued basic-scale U.S. military presence in the Asian-Pacific region.

On the basis of this analysis, the DOD made a review of its report dealing with the second-phase plans of the Nunn-Warner program; it is expected to use the program as a guide up to the third-phase plans.

The SCM-adopted FDO is interpreted as having something to do with the Proportional Engagement as recommended by the RAND report.

If the change in the U.S. Asian-Pacific strategy is based on the RAND report, it opens the prospects that the speed of the USFK shifting from the "leading" to "supporting" role will slow down in comparison with that shown in the Nunn-Warner program and EASI. But more important is the task to readjust ROK-U.S. security cooperation relationship. And the outcome of this task will likely determine if the "Koreanization" of ROK defenses can be achieved at an early date.

13 Oct 92 p 9]

["Need for Role Adjustment to Prepare for 'Reunified Korea'"]

[Text] On 11 October at noon (Korean Time), a "Navy Ball" hosted by the U.S. Navy was held at Hyatt Hotel in San Francisco.

One of the events marking the 500th Columbus Day, the mammoth gala was attended by more than 1,000 people, including the commander of the 3d Fleet of the U.S. Pacific Command and other admirals and navy delegations from allies such as the ROK, Japan and Portugal. Members of the graduating class (47th) of the ROK Naval Academy who had just entered San Francisco Harbor aboard Chungnam-ham and Masan-ham, the domestically-built 1,500-ton-class escort ships, also took part in the celebrations. The detachment had left Chinhae on 14 September on a round-the-world training cruise.

An intelligence staff officer (a captain) of the U.S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters asked the ROK detachment commander, Yun Kwang-ung (a commodore of the ROK Navy), "Why is it that Korea takes no initiative for joint naval exercises with Malaysia, Indonesia or the Philippines?"

Commodore Yun answered:

"At present, we are a member of the rim-Pacific naval exercise program, (RIMPAC) which also includes the United States, Japan and Canada. I think that in the future we will be holding joint naval maneuvers with Southeast Asian maritime nations."

In mid-September, when he visited the 7th Fleet flagship USS Blueridge which entered Pohang Harbor during the ROK-U.S. joint exercise Focus Lens, Yun was asked similar questions by American admirals.

One of them remarked: "The ROK Navy now has its submarines and will even have its P-3's (antisubmarine patrol aircraft) in the near future. So, the time has come, I believe, that it should reconsider its role on the Pacific."

The U.S. Navy has "mighty fleets" which are mightier than all the rest of the world's naval forces combined.

U.S. admirals are committed to keeping the U.S. naval power the world's mightiest, And because of this commitment, they, when speaking to military leaders of a country where U.S. troops are stationed, would at heart reject a naval buildup of that country while encouraging the strengthening of its ground forces.

Nevertheless, they know that they should not be just saying "No" to an ally's effort to build its naval power single-handedly. For that reason, they would, when it comes to the question of role adjustment in security cooperation, ostensibly show their interests in the ally's naval power buildup.

The reason the 1992 SCM is seen as having set a milestone is that, through it, the two nations reached agreement on the inevitability of readjustment in the 21st-century security cooperation arrangement between them.

In the SCM joint statement released on 8 October, they declared: "In the future the ROK-U.S. bilateral relationship will gradually develop from a security alliance into a more comprehensive political-economic-security partnership based on globally-oriented cooperation in the region of the Korean peninsula."

The "globally-oriented cooperation in the region of the Korean peninsula" in this case means that they will from now on shift to partnership in dealing with developments in the Northeast Asia and Asian-Pacific regions and global politics, from the present security relationship focusing on North Korea.

The two sides agreed that a joint defense policy study committee, co-chaired by MND Policy Office Director Kim Chae-chanc (an Army lieutenant general) and U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense (Pendlly), will conduct research on mid- and long-term policy tasks in this respect and report the result to the 1994 SCM.

In this connection, an MND official in a policy affairs post said that "the reference to the 21st century points to a reunified Korean peninsula." "Coming up with a concept on security strategy to prepare for it is what our new defense policy is all about," he noted.

"Security for a reunified Korea is to become even more difficult in that it has to deal with the four big powers surrounding the peninsula," he said, adding: "Judging from our geopolitical situation and historical experience, we know that independent security efforts have their limits; therefore, in our planning of combined security cooperation arrangement to complement them, our partner cannot but be the United States."

As for the United States, it holds to the position that it will remain the leader of the world while reducing its military strength. Therefore, in the eyes of ROK officials in defense policy posts, the United States needs reliable allies in the Northeast Asia and Asian-Pacific regions.

Washington is now feeling pressures from Japan not only in the realm of economics, science and technology but also from its military buildup moves, however. In the Philippines, too, it was compelled to close down its Clark Air Base last year. Because of that and the rental fee crunch involving the Subic Naval Base, it has been in fact hit by "unpleasant" experiences continually in the region.

Interested local sources say that some Americans, in their perception as an extension of such experiences, are wary of a reunified Korean peninsula emerging as a new obstacle to the U.S. pursuit of security policy in the region.

What they mean is that under these circumstances, should the ROK fail to convince the Americans of its being an unchanging ally, one cannot rule out the possibility of the United States proving to be an unexpected obstacle in the Korean reunification process.

In fact, a RAND report presented to the DoD last month pointed out that "the national strength that has grown as a result of the increasing economic power exhibits a propensity for democracy, rejecting the stationing of U.S. troops on its national soil." "The Korean reunification process will create in the region a far greater confusion than in the German case," it pointed out.

The report then warned that "the emergence of an economically strong ROK will usher in an era of competition that is comparable to the cold war-era tension."

The basic concept of ROK authorities is that in a 21st-century Korean peninsula security arrangement, the ROK will perform the leading role, with the United States in the supportive, power-balancing role, while in the security arrangement for the Asian-Pacific region, Washington will take the initiative, with Seoul cooperating.

Whether such basic concepts will fare smoothly in the face of foreseeable anti-ROK influences in either the United States or the U.S.-Japan and other Asian-Pacific security alliances remains a task yet to be tackled, however.

* Overview of North's Key Decision-Makers

932C0031A Seoul CHUGAN MAEGYONG in Korean 28 Oct 92 pp 42-45

[Article by Kim Nam-yong, research fellow at the North Korean Affairs Research Institute: "North Korea's Key Figures in Matters of North-South Economic Cooperation"]

[Text] The so-called first generation of the revolution consisting of former partisan fighters has been at the center of power in North Korea for the past 40 years since the establishment of the Kim Il-song regime. They played a leading role in building the system of dynastic succession of power from Kim Il-song to his son. Beginning in the 1980's when Kim Chong-il came to the fore, many of the revolution's first generation disappeared from the rank of power due to their death or superannuation, and the vacuum has been filled by the revolution's second generation, including Kim Il-song's relatives.

By the revolution's second generation are meant the children of those who have special connections with Kim Il-song. They are a group of expert bureaucrats who have taken the elite course of Mangyongdae Revolutionary Institute - Kim Il-song University - study in the Soviet Union, and who have been systematically reared by the North Korean regime. These people, who have been trained as the so-called national cadres, are widely spread out in key party, government, and military posts and comprise the powerful force protecting the regime. They may be considered the key figures who actually run North Korea.

Recently, with the materialization of economic cooperation between North and South, South Korean businessmen have been contacting North Korea to promote investment and trade, and in this process they are said to be confused as to who the North Korean key figures are. Inasmuch as North Korea keeps everything under wraps, it is hard to ascertain the truth, but the writer will highlight below the key economic figures in North Korea on the basis of the chart of North Korean power organs.

Yon Hyong-muk, Front-Runner Among Second Generation

Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the North Korean State Administration Council, (67), is the front-runner among the revolution's second generation, ranked sixth in the party hierarchy. He is well known to us because he has represented North Korea in the eight rounds of North-South talks since 1990. He was born in Jiandao Province across the Tumen River in 1925. He is the son of Mrs Choe Il-hwa, who tenderly cared for Kim Il-song when he was almost dying of flue during his partisan activity in Manchuria. With this as an occasion, a bond was formed between him and Kim Il-song and he began to make his way in the world. Yon married Kim Il-song's sister's daughter, thereby sealing blood ties with the Kim Il-song family. He entered Ural School of Engineering from Kim Il-song University. In Ural he majored in metallurgy, mechanical engineering, electric engineering, and electronics, preparing himself to become an expert bureaucrat in charge of heavy industry in the future. Upon return home, he started out as organizational guidance officer in the Party Central Committee and subsequently held key party posts in the political and organizational fields, successively working as responsible guidance officer, minister of heavy industry, and so forth.

In 1974 Yon Hyong-muk became the responsible person in charge of the central directorate of the Three-Revolutions Teams, equivalent to the royal guards to Kim Chong-il. Yon won the confidence of Kim Chong-il while playing the role of an economic assistant to him. He moved into the administration in 1985 when he was appointed as first vice premier and concurrently minister of the Metal and Machine Industries Committee. We was promoted to the premiership in 1988 as his capability won recognition.

Yon Hyong-muk's appointment as premier signifies the materialization of a system of dynastic succession of power for Kim Chong-il and change in North Korea's economic policy. Kim Chong-il is said to have exercised his power in Yon's appointment. Yon retained his position as premier in the ninth cabinet formed in 1990. He has been the premier for the past 4 years, a relatively long span, despite his difficult task of protecting the Establishment and overcoming the economic difficulties.

Judging from his capability and the measure of confidence Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il place in him, he is expected to remain as premier until 1994, when his term of office is scheduled to expire and the 7th economic plan to end.

Kang Song-san, Promoter of Joint Venture Law

Kang Song-san, 66, became the premier of the State Administration Council in 1984 as front-runner among the revolution's second generation and once the fourth-ranking member of the Party Political Bureau. While serving as premier, he enacted the Joint Venture Law modeled after the Chinese style opening up, in an attempt to shift North Korea's economic policy from the exclusionist system of self-sufficiency to a system of open economy.

His economic reform policy hit a snag due to the weakness of North Korea's social structure and the reluctance of foreign investors to invest in North Korea on account of its accumulated foreign debt, however. In addition, traditionally the North Korean ruling circles were skeptical about the market economy. All this resulted in the failure of the reform policy, forcing Kang Song-san from his post as premier in 1986.

Kang Song-san was born in Pyongyang in 1926. He is said to be Kim Il-song's maternal aunt's son. After following the elite tract of Mangyongdae Revolutionary Institute to Moscow University, he started out as responsible secretary of the Chagang Provincial Party Committee in 1969, thus building his career up from local party organizational work. He became responsible secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Party Committee and member of the Party Central Committee in 1970; chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee in 1973; and joined the State Administration Council in 1975 as chairman of the Transport and Communications Committee. He rose fast in rank to vice premier of the State Administration Council and candidate member of the Party Political Bureau in 1977 and full member of the Political Bureau in 1980.

Kang Son-san relinquished his post as premier in 1986 taking responsibility for the failure of the Joint Venture Law, but he still enjoys the confidence of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il. Currently, he is the 13th ranking member of the Political Bureau while serving as responsible sectary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee and concurrently chairman of the People's Committee of the same province.

Kim Hwan, Once Candidate for Next Premier

Kim Hwan, 63, along with Yon Hyong-muk and Kang Song-san, is one of the troika of technocrats in their 60's. He is a light industry expert who was once expected to be a successor to Yon Hyong-muk as premier. He, the son of a fallen revolutionary fighter, enjoys the full confidence of Kim Il-song and his son.

Kim Hwan was born in Huchang County, North Pyongyang Province, in 1929. His father, Kim Hyok, a partisan fighter, was captured and shot to death by Japanese police after rescuing Kim Il-song from the police siege. In North Korea Kim Hyok is considered a paragon of heroism.

Thanks to his particular connection with Kim Il-song, Kim Hwan entered Leipzig Karl Marx School of Engineering in Germany in 1953 to study chemistry as his major after graduating from Mangyongdae Revolutionary Institute and Kim Il-song University. Upon return home, he became a research fellow in a research institute and subsequently a college faculty member. He was appointed as vice minister of textile industry in 1968 and became minister of chemical industry in 1972. With the sudden rise of Kim Chong-il in 1974, Kim Hwan began to rise as a member of the party hierarchy, at last making his way into the power center in 1978 when he became a candidate member of the Political Bureau and a secretary of its secretariat.

Beginning in 1975, he engaged in external activities for 8 years as head of party delegations and Kim Il-song's special envoy before becoming the 14h ranking member of the Party Political Bureau in 1980. He became vice premier of the State Administration Council and concurrently minister of chemical industry in 1983. He relinquished his post as minister of chemical industry in late 1991. Currently, he only retains his posts as vice premier and member of the Party Central Committee, dropping from the party ranking list.

Main Players in Economic Exchanges

The figures who lead North Korea's external economic affairs are: Kim Tal-hyon (51), vice premier of the State Administration Council and concurrently minister of trade and chairman of the External Economic Committee; Chong Song-nam (66), who has been the minister of external economic affairs for 20 years; and Kim Chong-u (50), vice minister of external economic affairs.

Among the trio Kim Tal-hyon, Kim Il-song's cousin's son, is known a man with the Kim Chong-il connection. He was born in South Pyongan Province in 1941. He rose rapidly in rank above Chong Song-nam, who was once a big senior to him in the field of external economic affairs. Among North Korean high-ranking officials Kim has had most frequent contacts with South Korean businessmen. Most recently,k he visited Seoul this past July.

The External Economic Committee is an organization that searches avenues to trade and economic exchanges with countries having no diplomatic relations with North Korea. The was established by reorganizing changing the name of the then Ministry of Internal and External Trade when the fourth cabinet was formed in 1971. The External Economic Committee was renamed as the Ministry of External Economic Affairs in 1972. When the eighth cabinet was formed in 1986, the then Trade Committee was abolished and the External Economic Committee was newly established apart from the Ministry of External Economic Affairs. The External Economic Committee thus rose in statue as an organization that guides and coordinates the businesses of the Ministry of Trade and the Ministry of External Economic Affairs. The activities of the External Economic Committee are not limited to trade-oriented diplomacy, but the committee is charged with quasi-diplomatic functions to contact pro-Western states with no diplomatic ties with North Korea. Accordingly, this committee is expected to function as the main authority providing administrative guidance to the North Korean side in future North-South economic cooperation.

In the ranking of ministries and committees under the State Administration Council, the State Planning Committee used to be placed high, next only to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but it is now ranked lower and the External Economic Affairs Committee is ranked higher. This proves that North Korea gives more weight to economic exchanges with pro-Western countries.

Minister of External Economic Affairs Chong Song-nam was born in South Hamgyong Province in 1926. He successively became director of the scientific and technological cooperation bureau of the State Planning Committee in 1952; director of the external cooperation bureau of the same in 1963; vice minister of external economic affairs in 1972; and minister of external economic affairs in 1974. He has kept this last position for the past 20 years. He used to be mostly in charge of exchanges with communist countries and Middle East, African, and Latin American countries. With the establishment of the External Economic Committee in 1986, he came under Kim Tal-hyon in rank and since then he has been only in charge of economic exchanges with nonaligned countries.

Recently, Minister of External Economic Affairs Kim Chong-u has been engaged in most noticeable external economic activities. He is know as a progressive economic bureaucrat. He was born in Sinpa County in Yanggang Province in 1942. He is Kim Il-song's sister's son. Thanks to this tie, he graduated from the Department of Economics of Kim Il-song University in 1969 and became president of Cheil Equipment Firm, a kind of trading company, in 1979. Very Little was known about his career until he became vice minister of external economic affairs in 1982. Since then he has been known as an influential figure in the field of external economic exchanges as he conducted active trade diplomacy touring the former Soviet Union, East Europe, and other areas.

Kim Chong-u has visited Seoul on several occasions since 1990 in his capacity as North Korean economic representative in North-South high-level talks.

He is currently the North Korean chairman of the North-South Exchange and Cooperation Committee.

Hong Song-nam as Expert in Heavy Industry, Energy

Hong Song-nam (68) was born in Wonsan, South Hamgyong Province, in 1924. After graduating from Kim Il-song University, he became the first North Korean to study in Prague School of Engineering in Czechoslovakia, where he majored in mechanical engineering. He is a heavy industry expert. He started out as a guidance officer in the Party's department of heavy industry in 1954 and since then he had served as a heavy industry bureaucrat for nearly 20 years until he became vice premier and concurrently chairman of the State Planning Committee in 1973. He was relieved of his post as vice premier in 1975 and as chairman of the State Planning Committee in 1977. Subsequently, he was appointed, relieved, and reappointed as chairman of the

State Planning Committee, which post he turned over to Choe Yong-nim in 1990. He now retains only his post as vice premier. He is placed 19th in the party ranking, dropped from full member to candidate member of the Political Bureau in 1989.

Hong Si-hak (70) was born in Onsong County, North Hamgyong Province in 1922. He was a miner when Korea was liberated on 15 August 1945. His father, Kim Il-song's fellow partisan, died in action during the Japanese rule. He rose in the world by following the elite track as bereaved son of a fallen partisan fighter. Mainly he served as responsible secretary of the provincial party committee and chairman of the local people's committee until he became minister of extractive industry. He, an energy expert, is currently vice minister and a candidate member of the Political Bureau, placed 23d in the party ranking.

Chon Pyong-ho, Choe Yong-nim as Props of Regime

Chon Pyong-ho (68), secretary in charge of economic affairs in the Central Committee Secretariat, and Choe Yong-nim (66), vice premier of the State Administration Council and concurrently chairman of the State Planning Committee, are typical thoroughbred party bureaucrats who have been mainly in charge of party organization and discipline and their career had very little to do with the economy.

Chon Pyong-ho was born in Musan, North Hamgyong Province, in 1924. His father was killed in partisan fighting under the command of Kim Il- song. Thanks to this connection, the junior Chon was able to follow the elite track of Mangyongdae Revolutionary Institute to Kim Il-song University to Moscow University. He became a guidance officer in the Party's organization and guidance department in 1956. For the 30 years since then till he became director of the Organization and Guidance Department, the most important of all important posts, he had built his career as organization expert. He played a leading role in the purge of so-called anti-party elements in the drive for the personality cult for Kim Il-song and his son. He became a party secretary in 1986 and was promoted to the ninth-ranking Political Bureau member 1988.

Choe Yong-nim was born in Wonsan, South Hamgyong Province, in 1926. He became an activist in the Communist Youth League after liberation. After studying in Kim Il-song University and later in Moscow University, he worked as a guidance officer in the Party's organization department together with Chon Pyong-ho. He is a blind party loyalist. Choe played a decisive role in assisting Kim Il-song in seizing the party hegemony by defeating the Yenan and pro-Soviet factions in the "August sectarian incident," the foremost crisis confronting Kim Il-song. He has risen in rank thanks to this meritorious service, which earned him the good graces of Kim Il-song. Currently, he is a candidate member of the Political Bureau, placed 17th in the ranking.

The fact that Chon Pyong-ho and Choe Yong-nim, both party bureaucrats through and through, are assigned the posts in charge of the economy is viewed as a move designed to tighten up the reins on all economic agencies and organizations in order to maintain discipline and thus prevent its possibe slackening in the process of opening up in North Korea.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Deputy Premier Meets SRV Politburo Members

BK0312075892 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Vietnamese Communist Party Politburo members led by Mr. Pham The Duyet called on Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba in Kuala Lumpur today. A Malaysian Foreign Ministry spokesman said matters discussed included the ways Malaysia promote foreign investment, its land management, and taxation system. The spokesman said Malaysia is prepared to provide technical assistance to Vietnam under the Malaysia Economic Technical Cooperation Program.

Mr. Pham and his five-member delegation is on a nine-day visit to Malaysia. The delegation will leave for Penang this afternoon.

Phone Contract Signed With French Firm

BK0212154892 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1430 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Alcatel CIT of France has signed an agreement with Telekom Malaysia Berhad [Limited] to supply 850,000 telephone lines worth 50 [as heard] million Malaysian ringgit over the next five years. French Industry and Foreign Trade Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn said in Kuala Lumpur today that half the exchanges would be manufactured in France, while the rest would be produced by a local subsidiary, Alcatel-Networks Systems Malaysia Private Limited. The Penang-based subsidiary will employ 300 engineers and technicians in the project.

On transfer technology and training in Malaysia, Mr. Strauss-Kahn said that the (Des Cartes) company will set up a joint venture with the Mara Institute to train local technicians. Several large infrastructure projects involving the French interests will be undertaken in the next few months. He also said Ariane had been chosen to launch a new Hughes communication satellite from the United States. In the field of energy, GEC Alsthom NV is trying to supply gas turbines to Malaysia, while in the field of transport, [company name indistinct] will have a chance to offer a light rail transit system for Kuala Lumpur.

On the farm trade accord between the United States and the European Community, which France opposes, Mr. Strauss-Kahn said his country would stick to its position that the accord could be renegotiated along with other issues under the GATT talks. France will support the farm trade accord if the United States considers reducing subsidies to farmers in the United States.

Minister: Satellite Seen Upgrading Defense, Security

BK0212151592 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 28 Nov 92 p 31

[Excerpt] GOPENG (Perak)—Malaysia's first satellite would not only be used for communications but would also upgrade the country's defence system and improve security, Energy, Telecommunications and Posts Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said yesterday.

He told reporters after opening a Sikh temple here that the satellite, to be launched in 1994, would be able to receive and send information from Malaysia to overseas destinations.

He said the satellite, Measat-1, would also enable Malaysia to have a network of value-added services that could receive more information in various fields from other countries.

He said licensed telecommunications companies providing paging and cellular telephone services would also benefit with the launching of the satellite.

Binariang Sdn Bhd, the company implementing the satellite project, had yet to decide whether to employ the services of foreign experts, he added. [passage omitted]

Maritime Security Team To Be Set Up With Indonesia

BK0312041892 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0312 GMT 3 Dec 92

[By Zukri Valenteno]

[Text] Jakarta, Dec 3 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia and Indonesia have agreed to set up a team to coordinate non-defence maritime activities like preventing smuggling and controlling pollution in the Strait of Malacca.

Malaysia-Indonesia General Border Committee (GBC) Joint Chairman General Try Sutrisno said Wednesday that the maritime operation coordination team would be responsible for security in the Straits, which is getting busier as a waterway.

"Malindo (Malaysia-Indonesia) bilateral cooperation can be enhanced through this team which will also render help to ships in distress in their common waters," he told a press conference at the end of a high-level GBC meeting here.

Malaysian Defence Minister Najib Razak, who is also GBC joint chairman, said the formation of the team was among three matters agreed to at the meeting.

Najib said the team, to be formed under GBC's operation control and coordination committee, was expected to enhance safety in the straits.

The GBC was set up in 1972 to provide for a comprehensive framework of cooperation that covers efforts to combat the communist threat and implement socioeconomic projects to benefit the local population.

The meeting also agreed to extend the trial period for the Tebedu-Entekong trans-border post project at the Sarawak-Kalimantan border until the objectives of creating the post have been achieved.

A similar trans-border post project, aimed at fostering closer relations between people in the border area, had been planned for the Sabah-Kalimantan border.

Najib said the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) and its Indonesian counterpart would conduct an exchange programme for liaison officers to improve air defence cooperation.

Indonesian Air Force officers would be stationed at RMAF's air defence operations centre in Butterworth while RMAF officers would be sent to the Indonesian air operations coordination centre in Medan, he added.

UMNO Youth Berates Support for Sabah Proposal

BK0212153592 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 30 Nov 92 p 32

[Text] KUALA LUMPUR—Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba has said that the federal government does not agree with the Sabah government's proposal to have a forum on the "20 point-agreement" issue.

The agreement, which concerns the terms of Sabah's entry into Malaysia in September 1963, has been the subject of a bitter argument between the federal and Sabah governments lately.

Mr Ghafar said that the federal government preferred a debate instead. He was speaking to reporters after signing a condolence book on the death of President Kaysone Phomvihan at the Laotian Embassy here on Saturday.

"It is better to have a debate . . . there is no point in having a forum with these people," he said.

On the request by Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan that he be included in the federal government's team overseas, Mr Ghafar said that Datuk Kitingan had no right to make such a request. But the Deputy Prime Minister said that he had yet to receive any letter from the Sabah Chief Minister on the matter. He declined to elaborate.

Recently, Datuk Kitingan who is the President of Parti Bersatu Sabah, was reported to have said the Sabah government wanted the issue to be discussed rationally in a forum rather than through a debate which could generate tension.

In a related development, Kelantan UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Youth on Saturday regretted the move by the Parti Islam-led state government to back the Sabah government's proposal to amend the state constitution. The amendments would give the Sabah assembly the power to expel members who betrayed the mandate of the people.

Kelantan UMNO Youth head Kamaruddin Jaafar said that Kelantan should not have supported Sabah as the state government had other more pressing problems to attend to.

Deputy Mentri Besar Haji Abdul Halim Abdul Rahman had said that the amendments to the Sabah Constitution were necessary to safeguard the image of the State Assembly and prevent it from being tarnished by it own members.

Singapore

Goh Elected Secretary General of Ruling Party

BK0312130492 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong, has been unanimously elected as secretary general of the People's Action Party [PAP]. In a statement, the PAP says Mr. Goh's appointment was proposed by the senior minister, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, who has held the secretary general post for the last 35 years. Mr. Lee will continue to serve as a member of the party's Central Executive Committee [CEC].

Deputy Prime Minister Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong has been appointed the first assistant secretary general. The foreign minister, Mr. Wong Kan Seng, is the second assistant secretary general. Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Ong Teng Cheong continues to be the PAP chairman, while Dr. Tony Tan is the party's vice chairman. Mr. Dhanabalan is the treasurer with Dr. Ahmad Mattar as assistant treasurer.

Besides Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, the other members of the CEC are Prof. Jayakumar, Mr. Lee Yock Suan, Brig. Gen. George Yeo, Mr. Ch'ng Jit Koon, Dr. Tan Cheng Bock, and Dr. Lee Boon Yang.

The PAP CEC has also coopted Dr. Yeo Ning Hong, Mr. Lim Boon Heng, Dr. Elaine Wong, and Mr. Abdullah Tarmugi as members.

Consortium To Develop Army Training Simulators

BK0212135092 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Summary from poor reception] A consortium of Singapore technologists and the U.S.-based manufacturer of military simulators will be developing a computer-based training system for the Singapore Army. The local firm, Singapore Computer System, says it will work with CAE Lee Corporation to develop the system at the cost of 26.5 million [Singapore] dollars. The system is to be used to train regular Army personnel and reservists in combat tactics through simulation. Work has started and is expected to be completed in about three years.

Cambodia

Sanction Measures Against Khmer Rouge Welcomed

BK0212155192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Undated PRACHEACHON commentary: "We Welcome Appropriate Measures by the United Nations Toward the Khmer Rouge"]

[Text] On 30 November, as local and foreign opinions closely follow the (?activities) of the United Nations toward the Khmer Rouge who have refused to take part in the implementation of the peace agreement, the UN Security Council at one of its meetings adopted a new resolution on trade sanctions against the Khmer Rouge. These sanctions mean that the United Nations will ban countries that have business dealings with the Khmer Rouge from selling oil and buying logs from them.

Although insufficient, we consider this resolution as the start of appropriate measures. In the past, the State of Cambodia, which has taken part in the Paris peace agreement 100 percent, has always considered sanctions against the Khmer Rouge as necessary. This is because they have not only refused to take part in the peace agreement, they have also been causing all kinds of destruction to the Cambodian nation and motherland. Everything is important to the Khmer Rouge at the moment. It is most important that there be sanctions aimed at first preventing the Khmer Rouge from earning huge amounts of money for their continued weapons and ammunition purchases to carry on their destructive and criminal war.

We welcome this appropriate measure of the United Nations against the Khmer Rouge and believe that if the sanctions are genuinely carried out, it will make them start reconsidering their remaining chances in returning to take part in implementing the Paris peace agreement.

UNTAC Denounced for Videotaping Border Trade

BK0312023592 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 2 Dec 92

["Report on UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] Chief Infiltrating Cambodia's Western Border Areas to Make Videos Against the Cambodian People's Struggle"]

[Text] 1. UNTAC head Akashi is reported to have secretly recorded on video the business activities of the people living along Cambodia's western border areas. This is aimed at launching propaganda against the Cambodian people and the Cambodian patriots who have carried on the struggle for the implementation of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord.

2. If the report is plausible, the action constitutes another document clearly showing that UNTAC leaders have not only not executed the Paris accord and not verified and controlled the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Cambodia, but have also stirred up trouble with, pressured, smothered, and strangled the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces who have struggled 14 years for a peaceful and independent Cambodia free from the Vietnamese aggressors' domination.

3. During the over-14-year Vietnamese invasion and occupation of Cambodia, the Vietnamese aggressors and puppets have systematically destroyed and plundered the resources of the Cambodian nation and people. And since the signing of the Paris accord, they continue to unrelentingly and barbarously plunder their assets.

Have the UNTAC leaders opened their eyes to the criminal activities to ruin or sell the Cambodian nation being carried out by the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets? No. They do not care in the least. And have the UNTAC leaders opened their eyes to witness the situation where Vietnamese settlers continue to flow into Cambodia by ships, boats, and trucks with the intent of swallowing Cambodia? No. Absolutely not.

4. Some businesses conducted by the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance fighters are only for supporting the struggle for national liberation and defense. The businesses are not for making the people and fighters wealthy or for lining their own pockets.

The UNTAC leaders' videos are made with the ill intention of attacking the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance patriots. These videos have openly and stinkingly exposed the ugliness of the UNTAC leaders and their bad elements to the world.

Akashi Cancels Video After Thai Envoy Visit

BK0312103492 Hong Kong AFP in English 1002 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Excerpt] PHNOM PENH, Dec 3 (AFP)—The U.N. peacekeeping chief in Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, cancelled Thursday the scheduled showing of a video depicting the extent of border trade between Thailand and the Khmer Rouge. The cancellation came after Thai Ambassador Sunai Bunyasiriphan paid a visit to Akashi at his office and Khmer Rouge radio accused the United Nations of having "violated" the faction's territory to shoot the film.

The video had been scheduled to be shown to visiting press from Bangkok and wire service correspondents in Cambodia. It was cancelled after the journalists had already assembled for the viewing and no explanation was given. The video, viewed by AFP on Tuesday, showed vast areas of Khmer Rouge control ravaged by extensive gem mining and logging. [passage omitted on background information]

UN Peacekeepers' Abduction Termed 'Very Serious'

BK0312073492 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0600 GMT 3 Dec 92

[From the "International Affairs" program]

[Excerpts] The United Nations has described as very serious the abduction by the Khmer Rouge of the six UN peacekeepers in Cambodia. The incident follows a decision this week by the UN Security Council to import limited trade sanctions on Khmer Rouge areas of Cambodia. [passage omitted]

David Penbrook asked correspondent Sue Downie in Phnom Penh for the latest news about the possible release of the UN observers.

[Begin recording] [Downie] The last news we had was late last night and that was a message relayed to Phnom Penh from Kompong Thom, which is a small town where the soldiers are based. They are actually being held about 20 kilometers from there. And the UN officers in Kompong Thom have established radio contact with the hostages and the last message out last night was that they were well, they were not harmed, they were in good spirits, and they had received water and food from the Khmer Rouge.

[Penbrook] What negotiations are ongoing in both Phnom Penh and Kompong Thom to try to secure the release of the UN observers?

[Downie] The negotiations have been on two levels. In Phnom Penh it has been on the more political level with the Khmer Rouge general, Nong Bunno, who sits on what is known as the Mixed Military Working Group at a reasonably senior level. He was supposed to have gone or at least sent one of his commanders to the site yesterday afternoon with the UN, but he declined to go, and we are not sure exacatly why —whether he is acting on orders from higher up.

[Penbrook] So it is far deeper than just a rogue Khmer Rouge unit having seized the UN observers and they seem to have the blessing of the Khmer Rouge hierachy.

[Downie] Well, this is what we are not sure of at the moment—whether Gen. Bunno is acting on instructions from higer-ups or whether he is just taking advantage of the situation and playing politics, because the second level of discussion or negotiation is going on in Kompong Thom, and that is more likely to yield a result, because the people who are holding the UN peacekeepers have not actually come out and said what their demands are, but Gen. Bunno is saying there are demands, and that suggests that possibly he is making political mileage out of the situation.

[Penbrook] Is there any relationship between the seizure of the UN observers and the recent decision of the UN to impose sanctions against the Khmer Rouge?

[Downie] The timing would suggest that possibly there is a link, in that the Security Council passed the resolution only two days ago, and it does not make the Khmer Rouge happy. So, it is possible that they are retaliating, but this seems to be unlikely at this stage because the indications are that it is a local decision, it is a local problem and not a directive from higher up. It is possible that within the next few hours they will find out that it has been linked to the sanctions. But I think at this stage it is unlikely. [end recording]

Khmer Rouge Conditions

BK0312052192 Hong Kong AFP in English 0503 GMT 3 Dec 92

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, Dec 3 (AFP)—The radical Khmer Rouge [KR] has demanded that Phnom Penh government armed forces withdraw from around their area in central Cambodia as a condition for the release of six U.N. peacekeepers, a U.N. spokesman said Thursday.

"They are making this a condition of their release, and in that sense they (the peacekeepers) are being held hostage," spokesman Eric Falt said.

The amount of territory the Khmer Rouge wanted cleared was not immediately known.

The United Nations sent a negotiating team of Indonesians down the Stoeng Sen River Thursday morning where the [word indistinct] had been held for two days, Falt said.

The Khmer Rouge refused to send a representative to accompany the team and there was no immediate word on their progress, he said.

The United Nations identified the six as Lieutenant Colonel Mark Walton, Captain Jamie William, and Naval Lieutenant Peter Verney of Britain, Chief Petty Officers Jose Almirante and Blandino Mones of the Philippines and Petty Officer John Oxenham of New Zealand.

The British Foreign Office in London, however, gave different first names for William and Verney.

Radio contact with the six made at 6 A.M. established them to be in "good health and high spirits," said Falt, who added that they were being given food and water and were being held in a village populated mostly by women and children.

The banks of the river where they were being held 20 kilometers (12 miles) west of Kompong Thom are heavily mined.

The chief of peacekeeping forces "has expressed his indignation and deep concern" and called on the Khmer Rouge to release them immediately, Falt said. Around the world—Washington, Manila, Wellington, New York and London—calls mounted for their release.

The abductions came after the Security Council on Monday hardened its stance toward the Khmer Rouge, imposing an oil embargo and declaring that U.N.-run elections would take place before May with or without the radical faction. A team flying to Kompong Thom to investigate the abduction Wednesday came under automatic weapons fire that injured French Lieutenant Colonel Thierry Monet.

He was in good condition with a bullet wound to the lower back, and would remain in hospital for three to four days, Falt said.

The local Khmer Rouge commander who took the peacekeepers hostage said he believed they were spying for the Phnom Penh government's armed forces, Falt said.

The Khmer Rouge leadership in Phnom Penh did not respond to a request by the United Nations to accompany a mission to negotiate the release of the six menii Falt said.

A faction representative in the capital said the unit was not part of the Khmer Rouge and if it was, it was acting on its own initiative, the spokesman said.

Kompong Thom has been the scene of constant ceasefire violations between Khmer Rouge and Phnom Penh government forces despite a peace accord ending the civil war and the presence of 21,000 peacekeepers in Cambodia.

Kidnapping 'Local Decision'

BK0312085292 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 3 Dec 92

[From the program "International Report"]

[Text] Australia has expressed concern at the kidnapping of the UN personnel but says it seems to be a limited incident. Foreign Minister Gareth Evans told parliament that the Khmer Rouge [KR] office in Phnom Penh maintained that it was not Khmer Rouge policy to confront UN troops.

[Begin Evans recording] The detention of UN personnel is the first incident of its kind. According to all the information we have been able to glean it appears likely that this detention was a local decision rather than reflecting some new strategy by the KR leadership, in which case the implications to the overall settlement are limited. However, we are, of course, continuing to assess the situation further.

The attack on the UN helicopter is one of over 20 that have in fact now occurred since the UN arrived and which were specifically condemned in the recent UN Security Council resolution a couple of days ago. Such incidents certainly make the implementation of the settlement more difficult and more dangerous, but it is everyone's judgment, I believe at this stage, that it does not threaten the settlement. Similar injuries to UN personnel through landmines have occurred previously. They are of grave concern and illustrate the need for extreme care in moving around Cambodia, but despite all these incidents, the implementation of a settlement does continue in the way I described a couple of days ago. The results will give us all grounds for the considerable optimism that we will be able to proceed to a [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Khmer Rouge Orders Release

OW0312124392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1233 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, Dec. 3 KYODO—Cambodia's Khmer Rouge guerrilla group has ordered the immediate release of six UN peacekeepers, a UN Mission spokesman said Thursday.

The Khmer Rouge captured the six-member monitor team in Kompong Thom Province in central Cambodia on Wednesday. Three Britons, two Filipinos and a New Zealander are on the team.

The Khmer Rouge forces captured the UN peacekeepers as they were crossing a river on a boat from Kompong Thom, about 40 kilometers north of Phnom Penh, the spokesman said.

The guerrillas apparently suspected that the six officers of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) were spying on them for the Phnom Penh government, which fought a war against the Khmer Rouge from 1978 to 1991 with the backing of Vietnam.

UNTAC Head Yasushi Akashi voiced "deep regret" earlier Thursday over the Khmer Rouge action and demanded that the six peacekeepers be unconditionally released.

Akashi reportedly sought the cooperation of Khmer Rouge leaders in Phnom Penh and Pailin near the border with Thailand in arranging the "unconditional release" of the ceasefire monitors.

The Khmer Rouge, militarily the strongest among three groups opposing the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh government, has refused to enter the second phase of an international peace agreement signed in Paris in October 1991, which ended 13 years of warfare in Cambodia.

The Paris accord calls on all warring parties in the country to each disarm their forces by 75 percent in order to set the stage for a UN-sponsored general election next May.

The Khmer Rouge has refused to comply with the second phase of the peace process because it believes Vietnamese troops still remain in the war-torn country.

The Khmer Rouge, which was ousted from power [by] a Vietnamese invasion in 1978, controls 15 percent of the country.

On Monday, the UN Security Council announced trade sanctions against the group for its refusal to disarm under the peace agreement.

A total of 488 UNTAC peacekeepers, including eight Japanese Self-Defense Forces officers, have been deployed to about 50 outposts throughout Cambodia to monitor the four factions' adherence to the ceasefire agreement.

EC Parliament Delegation Arrives 2 Dec

BK0312063592 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Summary] A delegation of the EC parliament headed by "Mr. Claude Cheysson, member of the EC parliament in charge of Foreign and Security Affairs and of the French Socialist Party," arrived in Phnom Penh on 2 December for "an eight-day visit to Cambodia." The visit "is aimed at getting acquainted with the situation in Cambodia, specifically the process of seeking peace for the Cambodian motherland and people."

The delegation was welcomed upon its arrival at Pochentong Airport by "His Excellency [H.E.] Im Chhunlim, member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and minister of Education of the State of Cambodia [SOC]; Mr. Phi Thach, deputy minister of Foreign Affairs; H.E. Phillipe Coste, French ambassador to Cambodia; H.E. David Burns, British envoy to Cambodia," and several other officials from the SOC Foreign Ministry.

The delegation is scheduled to meet with "H.E. Yasushi Akashi, head of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]; H.E. John Sanderson, commander of the UNTAC forces; H.E. Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee, National Assembly, and National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense; H.E. Hun Sen, vice chairman of the CPP Central Committee, chairman of the SOC Council of Ministers, and SNC member, and H.E. Hor Namhong, SOC foreign minister and SNC member."

And the delegation will also hold talks with "the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party, the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party, and the Party of Democratic Kampuchea."

Leaders Greet Lao Counterparts on National Day

BK0312033592 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Heng Samrin, honorary chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and chairman of the State Council of the State of Cambodia [SOC]; H.E. Chea Sim, chairman of the CPP, National Assembly, and National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense; and H.E. Hun Sen, vice chairman of the CPP and chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent a message of greetings to H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and chairman of the LPDR's Supreme People's Council; and H.E. Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and prime minister of the LPDR, on the LPDR's 17th national day.

The message read: On behalf of the CPP, the National Assembly, the State Council, and the Council of Ministers of the SOC as well as the entire Cambodian people, we are extremely pleased to convey the respectful and friendly sentiment, warmest greetings, and best wishes to you and the brotherly Lao people on the 17th national day of the LPDR.

We highly value the 17-year achievements scored by the Lao people from all strata under your leadership and regard the gains as the important exploits that you have performed so as to continue the revolutionary reform policy with the aim of bringing about prosperity and glory for the Lao people.

We are firmly convinced that the time-honored relations of friendship and solidarity and cooperation between our two countries will further develop and strengthen ceaselessly.

May you both and the heroic Lao people have the best of health and longevity and achieve new, still greater successes.

Your excellencies, please accept our highest consideration.

Hor Namhong Sends Greetings

BK0312034492 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Foreign Minister Hor Namhong sent a message of compliments to H.E. Phoun Sipaseut, foreign minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on the Lao 17th National Day. The message mainly said:

I have noted with satisfaction the achievements the Lao people from all strata under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] have scored in the process of building and defending the country. This is in agreement with the goal of the reform policy adopted by the Lao party, Government, and people.

I am firmly confident that the Cambodian-Lao relations of friendship and solidarity and cooperation will continue to expand in keeping with the development of the situation in Asia and the world.

Your excellency, please, accept my highest regards.

Vice Premier Chakkrapong Meets Polish Envoy

BK0312062892 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, member of the Standing Committee of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in audience Mr. Krzysztof Kosel, Polish ambassador to Cambodia, at the Council of Ministers office on 30 November. The Polish ambassador informed the prince about the upcoming visit to Cambodia by a delegation of the Polish Communications Ministry.

The discussion also focused on the expansion of cooperation on joint ventures in the communications sector, shipping, and exportation of raw materials, such as fish, with the view of further developing the two countries' economies.

Hun Sen Visits Kaoh Thom in Kandal Province

BK0312060692 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Summary] A party-government delegation led by "His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia [SOC], and his wife" visited the people in Kaoh Thom district of Kandal Province on 1 December.

Accompanying Hun Sen on the tour were "Nhim Vanda, minister of Trade; Hang Chuon, minister of Culture; Vong Sot, Kandal provincial chief; (Chhon Im), first deputy minister of religious affairs," and other officials.

Taking the floor after a brief report on the general situation in the locality presented by the district chief, Hun Sen praised Kaoh Thom district for its achievements over the past 14 years. He also spoke about the Cambodian peace process and the situation concerning the implementation of the Paris accord, saying "the CPP and the SOC Government have, at all times, sincerely implemented the peace accord. On the contrary, the Khmer Rouge have not only not implemented the accord, but have also breached the cease-fire by carrying out shellings and by infiltrating the regions controlled by the SOC." He also "welcomed the resolutions on economic sanctions against the Khmer Rouge recently adopted by the UN Security Council." He pledged "to continue his efforts in order to bring about peace and happiness for the people."

Indonesia

Military Chief on Gusmao's Confession

BK0312051092 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Indonesian Armed Forces Commander General Try Sutrisno says the apology and regret expressed by Xanana Gusmao, leader of East Timor GPK [Security Disturbing Movement] in a recent television interview, will not influence the judiciary process against him. Speaking during a recess time of the Indonesia-Malaysia General Border Committee meeting in Jakarta yesterday, Gen. Sutrisno noted that Xanana's case would be legally processed in a proper way. Xanana Gusmao has been made aware of the real situation in East Timor by allowing him to meet his East Timorese brethren and see the current development program in the province.

Jakarta To Halt Pursuit, Pardon East Timor Rebels

BK0312103592 Hong Kong AFP in English 1016 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] JAKARTA, Dec 3 (AFP)—The Indonesian armed forces in the former Portuguese colony of East Timor has said it will halt all pursuit of pro-independence rebels there and pledged to pardon those who surrender, reports said Thursday.

"We will not pursue them but (instead) open the doors widely so that they (the rebels) can come in and surrender," the Jawa Pos daily quoted the commander of the military's operational command in East Timor, Brigadier General Theo Syafei, as having said Wednesday.

"Those who come down voluntarily will be pardoned," Syafei said shortly after arriving in East Timor's main town of Dili, adding that the decision had been taken in consultation with the leader of the influential Roman Catholic Church in East Timor, Bishop Carlos Felipe Xinez Belo.

The Jawa Pos, without quoting sources, said Belo had agreed to open the doors of parish churches in seven regencies where members of the pro-independence movement, the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor (Fretilin), could surrender.

Fretilin has been fighting Indonesia's presence in East Timor since its troops invaded East Timor in 1975. Indonesia unilaterally declared East Timor its 27th province in 1976 but the United Nations and Portugal do not recognize its sovereignty there.

The popular leader of Fretilin armed wing, Jose Xanana Gusmao, was captured November 20 in a house in Dili. The military said Gusmao, 45, was being held for questioning in Bali, site of the headquarters of the Udayana military command responsible for East Timor.

Gusmao appeared on state television Tuesday night, saying he accepted Indonesian control of East Timor and calling on his Fretilin colleagues to lay down their arms.

However, he has not been allowed visits by outsiders, including the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Jawa Pos also said Belo planned to issue a pastoral letter in about two weeks which would include the call for all Fretilin members to come out of hiding and surrender.

Syafei has said Fretilin forces have been reduced to the "hundreds" of poorly armed fighters.

Army Arrests 20 'Closely Associated' With Gusmao

BK0212032092 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] The Indonesian military has arrested 20 people closely associated with the recently captured East Timor rebel leader, Xanana Gusmao. East Timor Military Operations Commander Brigadier General Theo Syafei was quoted as saying this in an interview published today. He gave no names or any other information about them.

Mr. Gusmao, head of the armed wing of the Revolutionary Front of Independent East Timor, Fretilin, since 1979 was captured in a house in the western part of Dili on 20 November.

Minister: EC To Impose Quota on Exports

BK0212103092 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0914 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] North Sumatra, Dec 02 (OANA/ANTARA)—Indonesian Minister of Trade Arifin Siregar has disclosed that in the near future quotas will be imposed on Indonesian export commodities to the 12 member countries of the European Economic Community (EEC) due to the increasing indonesian exports to these countries.

Previously no quotas have been imposed on Indonesian export goods to the EEC, the minister told newsmen on his arrival from Jakarta at Medan 'Polonia' airport on Tuesday, when queried about his recent visit to the EEC.

EEC entrepreneurs had proposed that quotas should be imposed on Indonesian export goods, including textiles, electrics, garments, and shoes, because of threat to their products.

Arifin Siregar said that particularly on textile exports, the EEC had asked for Indonesia's understanding in reducing its exports because of EEC's flagging economy which could cause increasing unemployment.

Therefore the EEC will be imposing quotas on Indonesia's textile exports which previously never has been done, Arifin Siregar said.

Health Minister Expresses Worry Over AIDS

BK0212053092 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0505 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Surabaya, Dec 1 (OANA/ANTARA)—Health Minister Dr. Adhyatma expressed his worry over the spread of the Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in Indonesia, saying that from 24 people who have been suffering from the disease, 21 had died.

"This condition should not be allowed to continue. We should curb the spread," the minister said in his written speech read by Director of Contageous Diseases Eradication Juhana Sumantri here on Tuesday.

There are also 70 people in Indonesia who have positively been infected by the human immune deficiency virus (hiv).

The minister urged the people to avoid free sexual activities since the activites have a high risk of getting people infected by the virus. He added that both men and women have the same risk to be contaminated by the virus.

He explained that everyone could be infected by the virus through direct sexual activities with a person who is suffering AIDS or has been infected by hiv.

Japan Grants US$138-Million Infrastructure Loan

BK2811055492 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0258 GMT 28 Nov 92

[Text] Jakarta, Nov 28 (ANTARA)—Japan provides Indonesia with a 138-million US dollar loan consisting of 124 million dollars in two-step-loan and 14 million dollars in the form of engineering services.

The provision of the loan was marked with the signing of diplomatic notes here on Friday on the ASEAN-Japan Development Fund (AJDF) and yen loan for engineering services by Director General for Foreign Economic Relations Wisber Loeis and ad interim charge d'Affaires of the Japanese Embassy in Jakarta.

At the Asia-Japan summit held in Manila in December 1987, Japan announced a new financial cooperation program called ASEAN-Japan Development Fund.

The program is aimed at supporting economic development in the private sector of the ASEAN member countries, and further promoting regional economic cooperation.

Eighty percent of this [word indistinct] 138-million dollar two-step-loan will be used for the purchase of pollution control equipment and 20 percent to support small-scale businesses.

The yen loan will be used to finance three projects covering the expansion of the Surabaya Airport, a hydroelectric power generating plant at Sipansihaporas, North Sumatera, and the rehabilitation of forests in the central parts of Sumatera.

Minister Asks Troubled Bank To Solve Problems

BK0212090792 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Finance Minister J.B. Sumarlin has requested the Summa Bank to immediately sort out its problems so they will not disrupt banking activities in Indonesia. The minister attributed the bank's problems to mismanagement and noted that they have affected public confidence, especially in private banks. Therefore, the Summa Bank must immediately solve its problems so that the banking community can regain public confidence.

The minister said this to reporters after opening a national seminar in Medan entitled: "The role of human resources and finance as the main engine of growth in Indonesia" organized by the National Economists Association. Minister Sumarlin also asked bankers to provide good service to clients without abandoning the principles of business prudence.

Suharto, Hungarian Minister Discuss Trade

BK0212101292 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0923 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Jakarta, Dec 2 (OANA/ANTARA)—Hungary plans to build a bus assembling plant in Indonesia, Hungary's Minister of Internatonal Economic Relations said here on Tuesday.

Negotiations for the setting up of the plant are currently still underway, Bela Kadar said after paying a courtesy call on President Suharto.

In the first phase the plant will probably have only a 200 to 300 unit capacity, he said but added that the capacity would be stepped up in line with the demand.

Bela Kadar said he had discussed efforts to increase bilateral cooperation between the two countries with President Suharto.

Indonesia enjoyed a surplus in its trade with Hungary in 1991.

Hungary's exports to Indonesia in the year were valued at US$18 million while its imports were recorded at US$30 million.

Hungary's exports include commodities such as chemical products, medicines and machineries while its imports consist of products such as textiles and textile products and wood.

Kadar said his country is ready to pruchase more products from Indonesia's light industries.

Hungary wishes to increase trade and economic relations with Indonesia because it wants to spread its attention not only to Europe but also to Asia, he said.

Maritime Security Team With Malaysia Established

BK0212133092 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Excerpts] Indonesia and Malaysia have agreed to further cooperate to improve stability in the two countries. The accord was reached at the 21st annual meeting of the Indonesia-Malaysia General Border Committee (GBC) in Jakarta today.

Military Commander General Try Sutrisno, who led the Indonesian delegation at the meeting, had expressed the hope that Malaysia will pay serious attention to the situation in the Strait of Malacca, particularly in the eastern part of the waterway which is frequently harrassed by pirates. He also said that the two countries agreed to set up a Maritime Operation Planning Team (MOPT). [passage omitted]

Gen. Try Sutrisno said that efforts will be intensified through a clear mechanism of cooperation to prevent pollution and theft of natural resources in the territorial waters.

Defense Minister Datuk Sri Mohamed Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak led the Malaysian delegation to the meeting.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 0928 GMT in English, in a similar report, adds: "Malaysian Defense Minister Mohamed Najib Tun Abdul Razak, who headed his country's delegation to the talks, said Indonesia and Malaysia were also discussing the idea of holding an inter-state conference on the Malaca Straits."]

Laos

Army Sets Guidelines for National Day Celebration

BK0112145192 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 30 Nov 92

[26 November instructions issued by the General Political Department of the Lao People's Army on organizing celebrations of the 17th anniversary of the 2 December National Day]

[Text] The 17th anniversary of the 2 December National Day is approaching amidst an atmosphere of continuous and complicated changes in the international situation which are in favor of the opposition. In our country, the enemies have continued to employ many tactics in carrying out activities to annihilate our revolutionary fruits. However, with strong determination and firm solidarity among the national defense and public security maintenance forces and multiethnic Lao people under the correct leadership of the party and state, we have successfully achieved a glorious victory in defending and building the country. Consequently, this has helped maintain peace and order in the society and has gradually improved the living conditions of the people. Particularly, it has enhanced the launching of political campaigns in preparing for the election of members to the third National Assembly, thus greatly contributing to promoting the noble spirit of patriotism and extensively stimulating democracy among the multiethnic Lao people.

To promote the continuity and high efficiency of the aforementioned movement and to conform with the prime minister's instruction and the guidelines of the national defense minister, the Army's General Political Department has therefore issued an instruction on certain points as follows:

1. The celebration of the 2 December National Day this year is a normal one. Therefore the celebration should be focused on the basic concept of the occasion so that it suits the country's current situation and the actual conditions of various military units. As the beloved chairman of the party and president of the country has recently passed away, we must study his ideology and translate it into reality, encouraging everyone to comprehend the essence of the ideology, to be determined to improve respective units in all aspects, and to responsibly carry out the tasks of safeguarding public peace and security. At the same time, everyone must be encouraged to spend money economically and help protect public objects.

2. Heighten revolutionary vigilance and always be prepared to oppose enemy warfare schemes which are intended to affect new changes.

3. Continue to launch profound and extensive political campaigns among cadres and combatants, especially campaigns to successfully elect members to the third National Assembly. Military units which have not yet completed political campaigns and organizational improvements are advised to continue speedily their activities until they finish, in order to create an atmosphere that stimulates work productivity processes prior to selection of outstanding work performances of the year in preparing for the celebration of the forthcoming 44th anniversary of the Lao People's Army.

4. Encourage more strengthening of unity among cadres and combatants in the Armed Forces, multiethnic people, military units, and administrations at the grassroots level, in order that their tasks be successfully fulfilled.

5. Attentively contribute to grass-roots development and strengthen local administrative power, militia guerrillas, and self-defense forces, to establish a broad foundation for the people's warfare.

In order to achieve the above-mentioned goals in theory and practice:

1) All military units and branches are requested to organize appropriate celebrations by means of observing the 2 December traditions, assessing yearly performances of military units, and commending outstanding performances of individuals and groups—all these under the supervision of the party committees and military commands. Afterwards, launch campaigns for a contest of work performances in preparing for the celebration of the 44th anniversary of the Lao People's Army.

2) Military units or forces situated close to localities may join with those local administrations in organizing celebrations. In addition, such practice would also help promote relations between them.

3) Slogans:

1. Long live the Lao People's Democratic Republic.
2. Long live the patriotic spirit of 2 December.
3. Long live the Lao People's Revolutionary Party.
4. Welcome the election of members of the third National Assembly.
5. Let the entire Lao party, Army, and people unite as one and be determined to implement and translate into reality the restructuring policy of the party and state.

The 2 December National Day will be observed as a public holiday.

After receiving this instruction, all military units and offices, and regular and regional forces are advised to organize celebrations appropriately and to report the results of the celebrations to the Army's General Political Department thereafter.

Vientiane Rally Marks 17th National Day

BK0312061792

[Editorial Report] Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao at 0500 GMT on 2 December carries a 19-minute report, with portions recorded, on a mass rally held at Vientiane theater on the morning of 2 December by the administrative committee of Vientiane Municipality in celebration of the 17th anniversary of the establishment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. The rally was attended by more than 1,000 Vientiane residents.

"Attending the mass rally as guests of honor on this occasion", the announcer says, "were Maichantan Sengmani, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the Central Party and State Control Committee, and Oudom Khatthi-gna, Political Bureau member of the LPRP Central Committee and secretary of the Party Committee of Vientiane Municipality, along with members of the party and administrative committees, representatives of mass organizations, cadres, soldiers, policemen, personages, senior Buddhist monks, intellectuals, students and schoolchildren."

At the rally, Thongmani Thiphommachan, member of the Party Central Committee, deputy secretary of the party committee, and head of the Armed Forces Command of Vientiane Municipality, delivered a speech. In his 17-minue recorded speech, Thongmani Thiphommachan first points to the significance of the occasion and notes that the celebration of the 2 December National Day this year is held amid an atmosphere of "profound grief and sorrow" as a result of the demise of President Kaysone Phomvihan, whom he describes as a "beloved son and good nephew of the Lao people", who devoted all his life to the "struggle to liberate the country from being a colony of the foreign imperialists as well as to defending and building the new system." He then reviews some significant achievements wrought by the Vientiane people in various fields in building and developing Vientiane Municipality over the past 17 years since the establishment of the LPDR, and in particular in the implementation of the Kaysone Phomvihan-initiated restructuring line of the party in recent years. Pointing to certain weak points in the past year, Thongmani Thiphommachan says: "The people have not yet come to clearly understand the subtle schemes of the hostile force and have failed to fulfill their roles of self-mastery and self-reliance in contributing to carrying out the national defense and public security work." He also points out another weak point in saying that "the popular democratic system in the grass roots has not been regularly consolidated" due to the failure of the people to "profoundly understand the party's restructuring policy." He then calls on the people to securely maintain the "revolutionary gains" and pursue the "sacred cause" of deceased President Kaysone Phomvihan in the years to come by contributing to the national defense and public security work, stepping up goods production for export, checking illicit trading, educating and training students to maintain a patriotic spirit and a spirit of cherishing the new system, expanding public health network at the grass roots, and restoring and maintaining the national culture.

In conclusion, Thongmani Thiphommachan, on behalf of the party and administrative committees of Vientiane Municipality, calls on the Vientiane people to learn from the meritorious deeds of deceased President Kaysone Phomfihan and to be determined to turn the sentiments of mournful grief and sorrow into a "concrete revolutionary action and strength" and to consistently follow Kaysone's "examples of virtues, revolutionary ethics, and teaching", to maintain a firm trust in the party's leadership and resolutely continue to thoroughly implement the party's restructuring cause, and to unite and heighten a spirit of responsibility to fulfill their respective tasks in order to make Vientiane Municipality politically firm, economically prosperous, militarily strong, and culturally and socially advanced.

Leaders Receive National Day Greetings From SRV

BK0312062392 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Joint greetings message from Do Muoi, general secretary of Communist Party of Vietnam; Le Duc Anh, president of state; Vo Van Kiet, prime minister; and Nong Duc Manh, chairman of the National Assembly of the SRV, to Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and prime minister, and Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of state and chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of Lao People's Democratic Republic—dated 1 December]

[Text] On the occasion of the celebration of the 17th National Day anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], on behalf of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee, the National Assembly, and the Government and people of Vietnam, we would like to convey to the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee, the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], the Government, and the multiethnic people of Laos wholehearted salutations and greetings.

The victory of the Lao revolution and the establishment of the LPDR on 2 December 1975 ushered in a new era for the long history of the Lao people—an era of peace, independence, democracy, unification, and prosperity. Over the past 17 years, under the LPRP's leadership, the multiethnic Lao people have overcome various difficulties and trials and won many great achievements in the cause of defending and building their beloved country, thus leading the country to continually march forward.

In the recent years, under the beacon of the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress, promoting and expanding the profound patriotic spirit and the tradition of industrious, persistent, and creative labor, the multiethnic Lao people have won satisfactory achievements in carrying out the restructuring cause as initiated by the LPRP, thereby increasingly developing the national economy, gradually improving the people's material and spiritual life, and guaranteeing the social order and security. The political situation has also been firmly stabilized. Following the implementation of the broad and sound foreign policy, together with various successes in developing the country, the prestige of the LPDR has been raised to an ever higher level in the region and the world.

The Vietnamese people greatly rejoice at the successes recorded by the multiethnic Lao people, and note with satisfaction that the special solidarity and all-round cooperation between our two countries have been constantly consolidated and enhanced. This has been clearly seen through the visit to the LPDR in August 1992 by a high-level party and state delegation of Vietnam led by Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi. We firmly believe that the relations of friendship, special solidarity, and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and Laos will be further developed and renovated with increasing quality and efficiency, thus contributing to the cause of building and defending their respective countries under the present situation. Pursuing the will of President Ho Chi Minh, the Vietnamese people pledge that from this generation to the next generations, they will continually strive to fruitfully promote and to encourage the pure relations between Vietnam and Laos.

On this occasion, we would like to express profound thanks to the party, Government, and multiethnic people of Laos for the great, precious assistance that they have rendered to the Vietnamese revolution throughout the past. We wish the multiethnic Lao people, under the leadership of the noble, elegant LPRP, still greater successes in the cause of defending and building a peaceful, independent, democratic, unified, and prosperous Laos.

Cambodia Sends National Day Greetings

BK0312122592 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Congratulatory message from His Excellency Heng Samrin, chairman of the Cambodian State Council; His Excellency Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly; His Excellency Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, to His Excellency Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and chairman of the Supreme People's Council; His Excellency Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on the occasion of the 2 December National Day—date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of the 17th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], on behalf of the Cambodian People's Party, the National Assembly, the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, and the Cambodian people, we are extremely happy to extend our salutations, affection, warm congratulations, and best wishes to Your Excellencies and the fraternal multiethnic Lao people.

We highly value the achievements made by the multiethnic Lao people over the past 17 years under your leadership and regard those achievements and victories as extremely significant gains in the implementation of the restructuring policy with a view to bringing about strength, prosperity, and civilization to the fraternal Lao people. We have a firm conviction that the relations of friendship, solidarity, and traditional cooperation between the Cambodian and Lao peoples will be incessantly consolidated and developed.

On this auspicious occasion, once again, we would like to extend our best wishes to Your Excellencies and the heroic Lao people. We wish you good health, longevity, and new greater victories.

May Your Excellencies accept high regards from us.

On the same occasion, His Excellency Hor Namhong, foreign affairs minister of the State of Cambodia, also sent a congratulatory message to His Excellency Phoun Sipaseut, foreign affairs minister of the LPDR.

Philippines

NICA Says China Not 'A Threat' to Region

HK0312033292 Quezon City MALAYA in English 3 Dec 92 pp 1, 7

[Text] China does not pose a threat to the Philippines and the rest of Southeast Asia, despite its occasional muscle-flexing in the South China Sea, particularly in the disputed Spratlys Islands. This was the assessment made by the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA) in documents submitted to the National Security Council in a recent meeting.

During the meeting, the Department of Foreign Affairs identified the Spratlys as the "principal problem" in the country's external security. This group of islands, believed to be sitting atop rich oil and mineral reserves, is being claimed wholly or partly by China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Taiwan, Malaysia, and Brunei.

"China's incursions are more intended to draw attention to its pre-eminence within the region," NICA said. Despite the muscle flexing, NICA said, China "will probably desist from military adventurism" which could affect the Philippine claim to the Kalayaan group of islands west of Palawan. The Philippines has garrisoned the islands.

NICA also said the appointment of reformists to top positions in the Chinese Communist Party in the recent 14th Congress "reinforces the belief that Beijing will endeavor to preserve a regional atmosphere favorable to Chinese economic growth." This view runs parallel to the assurance given by Chinese Premiere Li Peng, who is currently on an official visit to Vietnam. Li said China does not intend to fill the vacuum created by the withdrawal of United States forces in East Asia and by the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

The Philippines is actively seeking international endorsement of the Manila Declaration issued last July by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations calling on all claimants to peacefully resolve the dispute over the Spratlys.

U.S. Urged To Endorse ASEAN Declaration

HK0312033492 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 3 Dec 92 p 12

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo yesterday called on the United States to endorse the Association of Southeast Asian Nations declaration on the South China Sea to facilitate resolution of the Spratly Islands dispute. At a luncheon hosted by the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines, the foreign secretary "wished the US would be more forthcoming in its support for the Manila Declaration (issued during the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting last July)."

US envoy Richard Solomon has expressed support for a "peaceful and diplomatic resolution of the territorial dispute in the South China Sea," but the US has yet to issue a categorical endorsement of the aforementioned declaration. US Embassy spokesman Morton Smith said he could not understand why the foreign secretary brought up the point. "I'm quite surprised there's even any question about our position on it. (US Secretary of State James) Baker was quite clear that we fully support the ASEAN Declaration. He was unequivocal about it. I don't know what the problem is," Mr. Smith told reporters over the phone.

Mr. Romulo pointed out that the European Community had endorsed the Manila Declaration, French Deputy Foreign Minister Georges Kiejman even going as far as to warn China not to engage in military moves in the area. "A similar statement from the US would be welcomed," Mr. Romulo said.

He also opened the door for US participation in a planned workshop on marine scientific research, which the Philippines will host and to which other Spratlys claimants have been invited. "The US could participate in the workshop from a technical, scientific support standpoint. That, in turn, would show support for the peaceful, cooperative efforts in that geographic area," the foreign secretary said.

Mr. Romulo said a "confidence-building gesture... such as the coming workshop, where exchanges of information will take place, are beneficial because once you talk in terms of cooperative endeavors, you reach a point when official participation will be there." China has so far refused to participate in official-level discussions on resolving the Spratlys dispute. Mr. Romulo added that "any individual country which does not cooperate, which does not support something almost everybody else has agreed to, shows itself as wearing a black hat."

Queried on the coverage of the 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty [MDT], Mr. Romulo said there were "two issues to be considered by the US. "The first is that, with respect to the Philippine claim, we fully understand that the US does not want to be seen as favoring one country's claim over another's," he said. "However, the second consideration is the defense of the Philippines and Philippine forces. We expect the US to stand by its commitments under the MDT," Mr. Romulo stressed.

Ramos Orders Negotiations for Troops Seized by KR

BK0312035292 Manila PNA in English 0318 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Manila Dec.3 (OANA/PNA)—Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos has directed Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo to negotiate the release of two Filipinos held captive by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia.

The identities of the captured Filipinos who are members of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force are still being verified.

Three other members of the UN Peacekeeping Force are also being held captive by the Khmer Rouge since Tuesday.

Upon instruction of the president, Romulo said he had talked to [Philippine] Ambassador Jose Villa in Bangkok to make appropriate representations, diplomatic and otherwise to UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia) and Mr. Akashi in particular, the head of UNTAC, to determine the names and veracity of the report.

Report from Cambodia said that five UN peacekeeping force members, including two Filipinos, were kidnapped by the Khmer Rouge guerrillas Tuesday while on a patrol and inspection in a river in central Cambodia.

It added that two British and a New Zealander were taken hostage by the Khmer Rouge who accused them of being spies.

The Department of National Defense has not received any report on the incident but confirmed a contingent of Philippine Navy is stationed in the area where the incident occurred.

The Philippines has a total of 355 soldiers and policemen deployed in Cambodia as part of the UN peacekeeping forces. This is broken down as follows: 225 are members of the Philippine National Police (PNP), while 130 are Philippine Navy and Philippine Marines.

The work of this contingent is to monitor and supervise the demobilization of the Cambodian Navy while PNP personnel are manning and training local policemen for law enforcement duties.

"I am very concerned about the two Filipinos. We want to know who they are and our concern, foremost of course, is that there is no injury or threat to them," Romulo said.

Kidnapped Marines Identified

HK0312053692 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] The two members of the Philippine Marines abducted by Khmer Rouge rebels were identified as Chief Petty Officer Jose Almerante and Chief Petty Officer Lantino Mores. According to reports reaching Camp Crame, the two were patrolling the (?Kompong Thom) River when they were abducted by Khmer Rouge forces. The head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], an Australian, is presently negotiating for the immediate release of these two soldiers.

Reports also indicate that, aside from these two Filipino soldiers, a New Zealander and three British nationals were also abducted by the Khmer Rouge. Meanwhile, the

Philippine Navy headquarters confirmed that the prisoners were safe and were being treated well. UNTAC officials are confident that this incident will be resolved soon.

NPA Rebels Reportedly Target Officials

HK0112132392 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] General Gerardo Flores, deputy chief of operations at the Philippine National Police [PNP], today revealed that the Alex Boncayao Brigade of the New People's Army is now targeting top government officials for assassination.

General Flores said the PNP has received information that the NPA hit men were targeting Western Police District intelligence chief Rufino Torrenueva.

This intelligence report was discovered after the militant Nationalist Youth was reported to be planning to launch a widespread campaign in the country to recruit more members into the communist movement.

NDF Ready To Free Imprisoned Soldiers; No Swap

HK0212042292 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] The National Democratic Front [NDF] has expressed that it is ready to free 30 imprisoned government soldiers despite government rejection of its proposal for a prisoner swap.

Representative Jose Yap said the NDF gave the assurance after the government submitted a list to the leaders of the communist movement in The Netherlands of soldiers captured by the New People's Army. Yap added the NDF leadership has directed its rebels to determine the individual statuses of the 30 soldiers, whether they still are imprisoned or have already been released.

Yap further said the NDF has willingly expressed the desire to free the soldiers as part of confidence-building measures needed to hold formal peace negotiations.

Thailand

Prasong: Curbs on UN Flights Not Retaliatory

BK0212031992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Dec 92 pp A1, A2

[Text] Thailand yesterday denied veiled accusations by United Nations officials that Bangkok was imposing restrictions on UN-Cambodia supply flights to retaliate for trade sanctions against the Khmer Rouge.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri confirmed Thailand wanted to change certain flight regulations, but he insisted the changes were proposed long before the UN Security Council decided on the trade sanctions.

"This has nothing to do with the sanctions," Prasong insisted.

The UN officials said Thailand has effectively suspended UN flights as the UN Security Council endorsed an oil embargo against the Khmer Rouge faction, which has close links with Thai business.

"From today we cannot in effect fly any aircraft to and from Bangkok," said Eric Falt, spokesman for the UN peacekeeping operation in Cambodia. He added that only emergency medical evacuation flights would be allowed to land in Thailand in December.

He said two C-130 transport planes belonging to the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) were currently stuck at the Thai airport of U-Taphao on the Eastern Seaboard.

Other UN officials said supply flights into the Thai capital will in future be required to obtain three days advance authorization to enter Thai airspace.

According to the officials, a December flights programme which had been agreed upon by the Thai military and UNTAC has been suspended, but discussions were underway to get the curbs lifted.

Prasong said Thailand, as a country bound by the Cambodian peace accord, is required to facilitate the UN Cambodia flights. But he added Thailand's agreement with UNTAC concerning clearance and flight schedules among other things has been lax.

"Negotiations to improve the rules have been going on for a long time," the minister said.

A Thai military official confirmed that UN flights had to get three days clearance. He said it was not a new rule although it was being newly enforced.

"Three days is standard practise. There has always been a three-day rule, although maybe it was not enforced in the past," said Wing Commander Saran Salachua at the Thai Air Force Operations Centre.

But in Phnom Penh a source close to the UN blamed the restriction on the Thai military.

"The military seem to be flexing their muscles," said the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "It's a pretty bad situation," he said.

The new restriction on flights "doesn't augur well and it doesn't say much for relations between UNTAC and the Thai Government," he said.

According to Saran, UNTAC has agreed to the new requirement on the flights.

"We agreed with the UN last week that for safety and national security reasons they would start informing us three days in advance," the Thai officer said.

The Security Council embargo, passed Monday, aims to prod the Khmer Rouge back into the peace process that ended the 13-year Cambodian war between Phnom Penh's Vietnam-installed government and a guerrilla alliance dominated by the radical Marxist faction.

The group, which received massive support from China and Thailand during the war, has been refusing since June to comply with a crucial UNTAC programme to disarm Cambodia's rival factions ahead of elections next year.

UN Asked To Consult on Enforcing KR Sanctions

BK0212035992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Dec 92 pp A1, A2

[Text] The UN Security Council [UNSC] has clamped trade sanctions on the Khmer Rouge in an effort to force them to rejoin the Cambodian peace process, while Thailand, which stands to bear the brunt of the impact, has asked the United Nations yesterday to consult Bangkok fully on steps to enforce the punitive trade measures.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said such close consultations are crucial to effectively implement the resolution which was passed by the Security Council in New York on Monday in response to the Marxist group's intransigence in the Cambodian peace process.

Thai businessmen have huge interests in gems and logging trade with the Khmer Rouge.

Prasong's appeal came as the council adopted the resolution banning the export of lumber and the sale of oil products to the Khmer Rouge. The resolution urged neighbouring countries to coordinate with the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) in setting up checkpoints along their borders to enforce the UN measures.

Thailand, through its UN envoy, Nitthaya Pibunsongkhram, conveyed the same message to the Security Council about Thailand's position.

Prasong said he did not expect any immediate implementation of the resolution, and not before consultations with third countries took place.

Informed sources said the draft resolution was cobbled together mainly by representatives of the United States, France and Britain, which are members of the UNSC, but excluding Thailand China and Russia.

However, Prasong said the resolution turned out as broad as Thailand expected and reiterated that it would comply with the UN resolution as long as it does not contravene Thai laws, sovereignty or territorial integrity.

In its message to the UNSC, the Thai Government reaffirmed its five-point position with regard to the UN resolution, that Thailand wants to see genuine and lasting peace in Cambodia which will not only return normalcy to border areas but will also create stability and prosperity in the region as a whole.

It urged the Khmer Rouge to comply with the Paris peace agreement and that efforts to negotiate with them should continue.

The message also pointed out that "patient diplomacy as mentioned in the earlier report of UN Secretary General (Butrus Butrus-Ghali) was the best means of getting the peace process back on track. [no closing quotation marks as published]

The letter also urged UNTAC to consult neighbouring countries including Thailand in devising detailed plans to carry out the resolution in accordance with the provision of Article 50 of the UN Charter.

It also pointed out that the setting up of checkpoints must be in accordance with the terms of the Paris accords, one of which stipulates that checkpoints shall be established "along the routes and at selected locations along the Cambodian side of the border and at airfields inside Cambodia."

The message also stated that the UNSC resolution of Oct 13, 1992 also echoed that condition.

The Foreign Ministry's spokesman Sakthip Krairoek said yesterday Thailand would not allow UNTAC to set up checkpoints on its territory. Thailand does not want to be dragged into complications that might arise between UNTAC and the parties against it, said Sakthip.

On Thailand complying with the Supreme National Council's moratorium on lumber exports, Prasong said he had informed UNTAC chief Yasushi Akashi, who was in Bangkok last week, that a grace period was needed to allow Thai businessmen trading with the Khmer Rouge to transport logs, machinery and other equipment out of Cambodia.

The SNC has imposed a ban on log exports effective at the end of this month. The UN resolution also suggested that a similar measure be applied on the export of gems.

The resolution, while condemning the Khmer Rouge for its intransigence, failed to fix a timeframe for the implementation of the sanctions against the Khmer Rouge.

Since June, the Khmer Rouge has refused to join in the second phase of the Paris accords, which calls for disarmament of up to 70 per cent of all factions' troops and their cantonment. The other three factions, including Phnom Penh's forces, voluntarily abided by the UN plan.

The resolution also warns the Khmer Rouge that elections for the country's first democratic government will go ahead as planned in May, regardless of whether they join.

In veiled language, the document threatens to close election registration to the Khmer Rouge and the estimated 15 per cent of the population they control on Jan 31.

US Ambassador to the UN Edward Perkins warned that this "cut-off date for opening areas to elections is particularly important."

The vote was 14-0 with China abstaining. Chinese Ambassador Li Daoyu objected to both sanctions and the prospect of holding elections among the three instead of four Cambodian parties.

"Instead of helping solve the problems, sanctions will further increase differences and sharpen contradictions ... we are deeply anxious about the possible adverse consequences that could result from a three-party election," he said.

The document also asks Butrus Butrus-Ghali to plan for presidential elections at the same time as the May nationwide poll for a constituent assembly. This poll presumably is to provide stability and put in office Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's titular leader.

The resolution comes after months of talks.

Meanwhile, the Phnom Penh Government said yesterday a UN Security Council-imposed oil embargo against the Khmer Rouge does not go far enough, and warned of an imminent offensive by the radical faction that would again plunge the country into civil war.

Spokesman on Burmese Border Dispute, UN Sanctions

BK0212080992 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Sakthip Krairoek, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, has reported on the action to resolve the problem on the Thai-Burmese border. He said the Foreign Ministry has accelerated close coordination with the agencies concerned, such as the Defense and Interior Ministries, the National Security Council, and the Special House Foreign Affairs Commission. He said the issue involving Hill 491 is not a serious problem as many people believed. However, solving the problem requires cooperation from all sides, and due to its complicated nature, thorough diplomatic measures as well as verification of facts are necessary in order to avoid armed confrontation. Verification of certain facts should become available in a few days.

Asked about the UN Security Council [UNSC] resolution on sanctions against the Khmer Rouge to force it to rejoin the peace process, Sakthip said the resolution could be summed up this way: The UNSC wants more checkpoints inside Cambodia; the banning of timber trade or the hauling of timber from Cambodia; the banning of ore and ruby exports from Cambodia, and the banning of export, production, or import of petroleum to Cambodia; the confiscation of Khmer Rouge assets abroad; and the Khmer Rouge to join the peace process by January 1993. Sakthip said Thailand is ready to comply with the resolution as long as its sovereignty, territorial integrity, and laws are not violated, and as long as there is minimal impact on Thailand.

Foreign Ministry: Flight Restriction 'Reciprocal'

BK0312035792 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 Dec 92 pp A1-A2

[Text] The Foreign Ministry yesterday said that flight restrictions imposed by Thailand on the United Nations Transition Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) were meant to balance out similar restrictions by UNTAC on Thai military flights into Cambodia.

Meanwhile, UNTAC chief Yasushi Akashi has expressed hopes for an "amicable solution" to the stand-off between Thailand and the United Nations over the suspension of UN flights into Thai air space.

Akashi, speaking in Phnom Penh yesterday, also dismissed speculation that Thailand suspended UN flights in retaliation for UN sanctions against the Khmer Rouge.

Akashi said he had been assured by Prime Minister Chuan Likphai That Thailand was ready to comply with the UN resolution against the Khmer Rouge.

We hope that there will be an amicable solution to the problem," he told a group of Bangkok-based correspondents visiting Phnom Penh.

He also said the oil embargo against the Khmer Rouge would take immediate effect and the UN was working on steps to enforce the measure.

The UNTAC chief said Thailand's restrictions on the UN flights were affecting the UNTAC operation because supplies were being held up.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek yesterday denied the restrictions were in retaliation for the UN trade sanctions imposed against the Khmer Rouge.

Sakthip said the flight restrictions were part of an agreement between the Thai military and UNTAC following an incident two weeks ago in which UNTAC denied air access to a Thai military flight to Sisophon.

The incident involved senior Thai military officials travelling by helicopter from Poipet who were unable to land in Sisophon province to visit the Thai Army engineering battalion unit there, according to Sakthip.

Thai military officials resented the incident, viewing it as a case of unequal treatment by UNTAC and leading to Thailand's decision to adjust its policy on air access to Thailand by the UN.

"If we are restricted, the UN should be treated the same." Sakthip said, adding that UNTAC military chief John Sanderson was informed about the incident, for which he had apologized.

The announced on Tuesday stipulated that UN supply flights and UNTAC aircraft would be required to give three days advance notice before being authorized to enter Thailand, except for emergency medical evacuation flights.

The restriction was, however changed yesterday to require 15 days advance notice before each flight into Thailand.

A Thai military officer, who is close to UNTAC, said the timing of the new agreement was bad. But he insisted that it was a coincidence that it became effective on the day of the UN resolution calling for sanctions against the Khmer Rouge.

The officer said past problems regarding air access between Thailand and UNTAC had been resolved on a case by case basis. But somehow the Thai military had lost its patience after beimg refused landing permission in Sisophon.

He said Thailand expected equal treatment from UNTAC. The standard "used by UNTAC towards Thailand should be the same," the same officer said.

Despite the new restrictions, an emergency flight carrying injured UNTAC soldiers from Cambodia for medical treatment was allowed to fly unimpeded to Bangkok yesterday.

Meanwhile, the UN sanctions inspired heated debate yesterday at Parliament when the Opposition parties grilled the government over what they charged was its indecision on the Khmer Rouge issue.

In response, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said that Thailand's dealing with the Marxist group was based on the Cambodian peace accords signed in Paris last year. He said Thailand was treating all four Cambodian factions equally.

Prasong said Thailand had warned that any pressure on the Khmer Rouge must be applied cautiously, otherwise fighting would erupt again in Cambodia. The door to re-enter the peace process should be left open to the Khmer Rouge, he said.

He said the government would try to protect the interests of the Thai private sector and the general public while abiding by the UN resolution.

Thailand will comply with the sanctions as long as doing so does not contravene Thai law or sovereignty, he reiterated.

Former prime minister Chatchai Chunhawan, leader of Chat Phatthana Party, said Thailand's image is at stake because Thailand had failed to convince the Khmer Rouge to return to the peace process.

He said the foreign minister must continue to try to persuade the Khmer Rouge to comply with the UN peace plan, otherwise Thailand's trade with the Khmer Rouge would suffer. He added that Thailand is the Marxist group's largest trading partner.

Kon Thapparansi, also of the Chat Phatthana Party, said Thailand had a central role to play in settling the Cambodian conflict. He said he had warned the government that Thailand's reputation would be damaged if the UN was forced to adopt a punitive resolution regarding the Khmer Rouge.

Kon said if Thailand abided by the UN sanctions, Thailand's interests would be hurt. He said he was disappointed that Thailand was not holding direct discussions with the Khmer Rouge to encourage them to rejoin the peace process.

Another Chat Phatthana Party MP Prawat Uttamote of Chanthabun, blamed the foreign minister for what he said was the ministry's failure to lobby the UN to not impose sanctions.

Chat Thai Party's Seksan Saengphom of Surin also shared this view, adding that the sanctions would have a negative impact on the economy of the Northeast, with tourism being especially hard hit.

He said that about 3,000 tourists visited Khao Pravihan Temple on an average day. "With the sanctions, people will think it is too dangerous to visit the area," he said.

PTT To Supply Oil to UN Aircraft in Cambodia

BK0312022792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Dec 92 p 22

[Text] The Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT) has won a contract from Continental Offshore Co to act as sub-contractor in providing fuelling services for aircraft used by the United Nations in Cambodia.

The services will start early this month at five airports in Cambodia—Phnom Penh, Kampongsom, Strengtreng, Seam Reap and Battambang—and will continue for the duration of the UN's programme in Cambodia.

Continental Offshore Co was appointed by the UN to procure and offer fuelling services to its Cambodian missions.

PTT downstream oil business president Phala Sukhawet said the services supported the authority's intention to become an international oil concern.

The contract could also pave the way for the PTT to supply oil to the UN mission in Cambodia in the future, Mr Phala said.

Government 'Mishandling' of Sanctions Issue Hit

BK0312025592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Dec 92 p 2

[Text] Opposition leaders yesterday criticised what they claimed to be the Government's "mishandling" of the Khmer Rouge problem which may adversely affect the country's image and economy.

The criticism came during the Lower House debate on a motion to debate the United Nations sanctions against the Khmer Rouge and its impact on Thailand sponsored by Chat Phatthana Party leader Gen Chatchai Chunhawan.

The Government prior to the debate attempted to steal the show from the Opposition by asking Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri to explain the issue to the Lower House.

Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong told the meeting Thailand has relentlessly tried to bring the Khmer Rouge to join the peace process in Cambodia during the past six months but the attempts had failed despite assistance from Japan and China.

The Foreign Minister also said the Government has also tried and has not given up attempting to avert the impact from the UN sanctions on Thailand.

Talks have been conducted between Thai ambassadors and UN officials in Bangkok, Phnom Penh and New York to try to avert the problem.

Thailand, Sqn Ldr Prasong said, was exercising its rights under Article 50 of the UN Charter which requires the UN to closely consult with the third country which may be affected by enforcing its resolution.

Bangkok was also trying to persuade the UN not to retroactively enforce the sanctions which will affect the investment already made by Thai businessmen in Cambodia, the Foreign Minister said.

Thailand will fully cooperate with the UN taking in mind that such cooperation will not be done at the cost of Thai territorial integrity and sovereignty. The cooperation must also be carried out in the interest of the couutry, Sqn Ldr Prasong said.

The minister said the intense Thai lobbying has paid off with the UN agreeing to set up checkpoints to impose the oil embargo against the Khmer Rouge inside Cambodia instead of on Thai territory.

Gen Chatchai during his speech said that the Government's failure to get the Khmer Rouge to join the peace process has damaged the country's image.

The eight years of attempts by past governments in trying to bring the four Khmer factions together to sign the peace agreement in Paris has brought admiration to Thailand from the superpowers. Thailand has lost its leading role in the Cambodian issue.

"The UN used to listen to whatever we say. Now, the UN can order us to do anything," Gen Chatichai said.

"It's now the duty of the Foreign Ministry to exert all kinds of influence to get the Khmer Rouge to join the peace process to enable Thai businessmen to continue conducting their trade in Cambodia," he said.

Gen Chatchai said he believed there were several senior citizens who had the influence to convince the Khmer Rouge to comply with the UN's resolution.

"We must do this to stop the world from accusing us of maintaining relations with the Khmer Rouge," he said.

Chat Phatthana MP Kon Thappharangsi said the Government had talked through the "wrong channel" through the UN when it should have conducted a direct dialogue with the Khmer Rouge.

Although talks had been conducted with the Khmer Rouge, the Government still has not put all of its efforts into this.

"The world is watching if we are sincere in helping solve the problem. I don't know where the Foreign Minister is leading the country's citizens to," the Nakhon Ratchasima MP said.

Meanwhile, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs said yesterday that UN sanctions imposed on the Khmer Rouge would be ineffective.

Committee chairman Krasae Chanawong, after consultations with the Thai Government, said the UN measures would not be harsh enough since they would fail to place sufficient pressure on the Khmer Rouge.

The committee said it believes that there is no readiness to hold a general election in Cambodia.

It is not probable that the Khmer Rouge will participate in the election especially when registration for the polls by repatriated Cambodians has been difficult, he said.

Trat MP Thanit Traiwut said pressure on the Khmer Rouge at this point will be futile and the sanctions ineffective.

The committee member blamed the Government's slowness in negotiations with the UN to avert the imposition of the sanctions which will only affect the commercial interests of Thai people. Thai traders in timber, gem-mining and oil will be affected by the sanctions.

Mr Thanit, a log trader himself, said the sanctions could have been avoided if Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri had put more effort into pursuing talks with the UN.

Mr Krasae said the Government has to explain Thai trading activities in Cambodia to the world.

He said the committee made the observation that the sanctions will hardly affect Japanese interests in Cambodia despite its sizable trade activities in that country.

This is because the Japanese built wood-processing factories in the country but the sanctions only affect cross-border trade.

In order to cushion the impact on Thai traders, the committee will propose the Government give them tax breaks and help them negotiate with the new Cambodian government after the election, he said, adding that this may allow Thai traders to resume their concessions which have not expired.

The committee will gather information from other Cambodian factions before wrapping up its recommendations, he said.

Meanwhile Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan aid the Government has done its best in lobbying all parties involved to avert the UN sanctions which would have been harsher without Thailand's diplomatic efforts.

Army Chief: Army 'Ready To Repulse' Burmese

BK0312021392 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Dec 92 p 1

[Text] Army Chief Wimon Wongwanit reaffirmed yesterday that the military is ready to repulse Burmese troops occupying Hill 491 in Tha Sae District of Chumphon Province if it is ordered to do so by the Government.

Speaking to reporters at the Army Hall, Gen Wimon expressed sympathy for the Government which had to consider the national interest as well as things like cross-border trade before making a decision on such a crucial issue.

"I want to assure you that as long as the two sides are engaged in negotiations, there will be no use of force. The use of force would only be an option if negotiations fail," he said.

Asked what the military has suggested to the Government, the army chief said negotiations could lead to a suitable solution.

Other action, including the use of force, could be taken if negotiations failed to make progress, he said.

"If negotiations prove to be fruitless, then there would probably be some fighting to regain the disputed hill," Gen Wimon said.

"We are ready for action. It depends on what the Government orders us to do. We are ready to follow orders to preserve the country's interest and reputation in the eyes of the world community," he added.

However, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said yesterday that he still belives the conflict can be settled through peaceful negotiations through the regional border committee under the support of the Foreign Ministry.

Noting that the problem has been carried over from the previous government, Mr Chuan said his administration would pursue talks with Rangoon in order to settle the dispute peacefully.

When asked why Third Army commander Lt-Gen Yingyot Chotphimai had postponed a scheduled trip to Rangoon to negotiate with Burmese authorities about the hill Gen Wimon said he felt Burma was foot-dragging in dealing with the matter.

"During previous negotiations, they said they would send officials to verify whether the hill is inside Thailand or Burma, but they never did," he told the POST.

"In our opinion, Hill 491 is part of a mountain range dividing the two countries. It is not suitable for any country to send troops to occupy it before it is clearly proved which country it belongs to," he said.

Gen Wimon said he felt it would be useless for Lt-Gen Yingyot to go to Rangoon under such circumstances.

However, he said the Army may try once again to negotiate with Burma if the Government so wishes.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Gen Wichit Sukmak said the Cabinet on Tuesday discussed the Burmese occupation of the hill but declined to elaborate because of the possible risk to national security.

He, however, said the Foreign Ministry is trying to solve the problem.

Opposition Demands Talks

BK0312040992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 Dec 92 pp A1-A2

[Text] Opposition MPs yesterday demanded immediate government-level talks with Rangoon to resolve the conflict over Hill 491 in Chumphon province before the dispute escalates to an armed confrontation.

Questioning the government's handling of the deteriorating dispute with Burma during a house debate, the MPs reiterated calls for a joint survey of Hill 491 in Chumphon's Tha Sae district to settle the conflict quickly.

Chat Phatthana Party chief adviser Gen Athit Kamlang-ek said government-to-government negotiations should focus on persuading the Burmese troops to vacate the hill to allow for a joint survey of the disputed area.

He said Burma should be told that withdrawing its troops from the hill would show its "sincerity" in solving the conflict. Burma claims the hill, which it captured from Karen guerrillas in February this year, is within its border.

Deputy Chat Phatthana leader Kon Thapparansi said bilateral negotiations at the local level had several times failed to resolve the problem. He said the recent capture of Thai local officials by Burmese troops reflected "poor communications" between Thailand and Burma at local levels.

"The government has not made a clear cut stand on the issue," Korn said. "The public have not been completely informed of what the government has done."

Asking the government not to be complacent, Muanchon Party leader Chaloem Yubamrung said the "military presence" of Rangoon troops made the dispute with Burma different from and more dangerous than territorial conflicts with Malaysia in the past. He also noted the Burmese government was a dictatorial military regime.

Responding to the opposition's criticism, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai reiterated the Thai government's policy of seeking peaceful solutions to the conflict.

Chuan admitted that this kind of national issue was "new" to him.

"When I first looked at the matter I wondered why the army did not do anything to push the Burmese troops back when it learnt of their presence," the prime minister said.

"The government is not sitting idle and ignoring the problem. We are doing our best to solve the conflict," he said.

Chuan, without mentioning any names, said the dispute has been left unsettled through previous governments, and formal bilateral talks only began after his government assumed office.

Chuan declined the Opposition's request for him to say whether he "personally" believed the disputed [hill] was in Thai territory. He, however, said he believed "what Thai officials have said".

Responding to growing talks about any action, Chuan said, "It's easy to order the army to launch an attack. I will be safe beause I don't have to join the fight.

"But if using force is the best way to solve the conflict, why didn't the previous governments choose this option?"

Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak, meanwhile, said the Thai military would comply with the government's policy on the issue.

"Currently the Thai and Burmese foreign ministries are trying to solve the problem together," Wichit said. He added that Burma had repeatedly refused to withdraw its troops from Hill 491.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, meanwhile, said Burma still wants talks with Thailand on the issue and negotiations at the Regional Border Committee (RBC) level have not yet been completed. He said the two countries will resume mutual talks soon.

Prasong said no official demarcation of the controversial hill has been made, leading to the overlapping claims by Thailand and Burma. He added a factfinding team should be dispatched to the area after both countries agree on which maps or theories are to be used in identifying ownership of the hill.

Prasong, a former secretary general of the National Security Council, said no force would be used at the moment.

Paper Calls for 'Top-Level Talks'

BK0312055392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 Dec 92 p A6

[Editorial: "Top-level talks needed to end border dispute"]

[Text] Chat Phatthana party leader Gen Chatchai Chunhawan sounded very hawkish in his recent call for a military response to flush out the Burmese troops occupying the disputed Hill 491 in Chumphon. He contended that quiet diplomacy had failed and military action was the most sensible way left for Thailand to regain control of the border hill.

Such an extreme stance is uncharacteristic of Chatchai, who passionately advocated "turning the war zone of Indochina into a trade zone" during his premiership in 1988-91. It also deviated from Chatchai's long-held belief in diplomacy as the most effective means of resolving international disputes—a belief he developed while serving as Thai ambassador to several countries in Latin America and Europe during the 1960s.

Historical background overlooked

Chatchai was apparently trying to capitalize on the spreading public perception that the Chuan administration has achieved little or nothing during its first two months in office. But faulting the government for failing to expel the Burmese intruders from Hill 491 without looking at the background of this problem was, at best, a shrewd political move bordering on a cheap shot.

Chat Phatthana deputy party leader Gen Athit Kamlang-ek even seized the opportunity to submit an urgent motion demanding government clarification on its "inaction" over the Burmese intrusion. But in a timely counter move, the Chuan Cabinet chose first to clarify the situation during the House meeting yesterday. This in effect made Athit's urgent motion redundant. And both Defence Minister Gen Wichit Sukmak and Premier Chuan Likphai patiently explained the government's position in a proper historical perspective.

For starters, the Burmese troops didn't just seize the hill recently. They battled the Karens for quite some time last year, and in February 1992 overran the rebels' positions on the hill after suffering heavy casualties. The main argument of the Burmese is that if the hill were truly on Thai territory, how come Thai authorities allowed the Karens to set up military posts on it? During the heavy fighting early this year, Bangkok raised no objection to the Burmese military operations in the area. This led the Burmese to believe that Bangkok recognized Burma's claim over the hill, which according to their map is on their side of the border.

Thailand's explanation seems to be that internal political problems and changes in government—four administrations since February—have distracted government attention from the border problem. Thai border authorities did engage their Burmese counterparts in local-level meetings to discuss the dispute, but with little positive result. Yet neither the Anand I, the Suchinda, nor the Anand II administration wanted to break off the talks and resort to force.

Premier Chuan was correct in pointing out that his administration merely inherited the border problem; it didn't create the problem. But whether or not it is wise to continue to pin all hopes of resolving the dispute on local-level talks is questionable.

A Thai-Burmese meeting of military commanders at the regional level in Chiang Mai last month failed to produce a satisfactory solution. An urgent meeting in Bangkok between Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri and his Burmese counterpart on Tuesday also resulted in little more than a common understanding to continue to try to resolve the dispute through peaceful negotiations.

Since Premier Chuan is satisfied with official Thai records and maps showing that Hill 491 is part of Thailand, it stands to reason that his administration should seek urgent talks with the highest authority in Rangoon to settle the dispute. If Rangoon still considers Thailand as its friend, then it should respect the Thai counter-claim and withdraw all of its troops from the hill without delay. The withdrawal can be done under a Thai guarantee that no Karen rebels or any alien forces will be allowed to move in once the Burmese troops leave.

Withdraw and talk

Then a joint Thai-Burmese survey team can be formed to examine the hill, while high-level officials from both sides continue talks on not only how to resolve this particularly border dispute, but also how to improve the demarcation of the entire 2,000-km long Thai-Burmese border to prevent future disputes elsewhere.

Burmese leaders in Rangoon must realize that they cannot stall the issue in low-level talks indefinitely. The Chuan administration is under growing pressure to take action and show results. Thailand certainly has more than enough military power to crush the Burmese intruders and retake the hill by force.

However, Premier Chuan said this would be his last resort, to be taken only after all other peaceful efforts had failed. And Rangoon should reciprocate this Thai goodwill gesture by offering a total withdrawal from Hill 491 and engaging in bilateral talks in good faith as soon as possible.

Vietnam

NHAN DAN Article Views Ties With PRC

BK0212130192 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Nov 92

[Article by Dinh Nho Liem, vice president of the Vietnam-China Friendship Association, published in 27 November issue of NHAN DAN: "The Development of Sino-Vietnamese Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Text] We are preparing for a welcoming ceremony in honor of Li Peng, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, who will pay an official friendship visit to Vietnam from 30 November-4 December 1992. This is an important political event in the relations between the two countries, as well as in the general situation in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region. This is also part of many other important diplomatic activities of the two countries this year. As far as this visit is concerned and against a new backdrop in the Asia-Pacific region and other parts of the world, we note with pleasure the achievements of the peoples of the two countries and the development of Sino-Vietnamese relations so far.

Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China and through hard work and creativity, the Chinese people have scored many achievements in their economic reform program and open-door policy to build socialism based on China's characteristics. China has scored great results after 10 years of reform from 1979 to 1988. On the average, the annual agricultural growth rate has increased by 6.8 percent and the industrial growth rate by 12.6 percent. The average annual grain output per capita has increased to 392 from 300 kilograms. The people's living conditions have been improved comprehensively.

Noteworthy is the fact that China has successfully implemented the sixth and seventh five-year plans, thus leading the strategically important task of building and modernizing socialism a step further. In early 1991, the Chinese State Council adopted the eighth five-year socioeconomic development plan in which by the year 2000, the total value of the national economic output will increase by four times compared with 1980, and the gross national product in the first six months of 1992 will increase by 10 percent compared with the first six months of 1991. The PRC's position and role have been recognized by countries in Southeast Asia, the Asia-Pacific region, and other parts of the world.

The 14th CPC Congress from 12-18 October 1992 marked a new step of development in the Chinese people's revolutionary struggle. The congress summed up the lessons drawn from 14 years of building socialism based on China's characteristics, with outstanding efforts being made to formulate a fundamental line focussing on one key objective and two basic points, that is regarding economic building as a key task, as well as effecting reform and opening up to build socialism and persisting in the party's leadership and the people's democratic dictatorship.

In its message of greetings to the congress, our Party Central Committee said:

The 14th CPC Congress is a great event in China's political life that evokes the interest of world public opinion.

On this occasion, we sincerely wish the CPC and Chinese people many new and still greater successes in their enforcement of reforms and open-door policies. The Vietnamese people believe that by following the lines of the 14th congress, the Chinese people will soon be able to make the PRC prosperous and powerful and improve their livelihood, while contributing to peace, cooperation, and development in the Asia-Pacific region and the world. With this congress, China will advance onward with new vision and viewpoints.

Following the official visit to the PRC in November 1991 by a high-level Vietnamese delegation led by Party General Secretary Do Muoi and Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet, relations between Vietnam and China have been turned to a new page. A joint communique issued on this occasion said:

The two sides declared that friendly and neighborly relations between Vietnam and China have developed on the basis of the five principles of mutual respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each other, nonagression against each other, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, equality for mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence.

The CPV and the CPC will normalize relations on the principles of independence, sovereignty, perfect equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

Since then, relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and China have been improved by many activities in certain areas, such as the signing a number of agreements; the exchange of visits by state, party, and mass organization delegations and cultural and art troupes; the opening of air routes; and the expansion of trade.

As signatories of the Paris agreement on Cambodia, the two sides have the responsibility to help ensure that the agreement is implemented in the right way. This is aimed at contributing to the building of a peaceful, independent, unified, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia that is friendly to all countries, especially its neighbors. The two sides oppose all violations against the agreement that may complicate the situation in Cambodia.

In his talks with the high-level Vietnamese delegation during his visit to China, General Secretary Jiang Zemin said:

The two sides should shake off the past and look forward to the future with spirit of mutual understanding to promote cooperation in all domains and foster development in a realistic, steady, and effective manner.

We hope that that statement will be transformed into concrete and practical actions.

Vietnam's stand is to encourage the development of cooperation with China on the basis of ensuring its independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, while persistently solving a number of existing or new problems between the two countries through negotiations.

It is necessary to foster trust on the basis of perfect equality, genuine respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, mutual benefit, and mutual assistance. These are the fundamental factors that would determine the long-term development of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and China. This should be done by both sides. On our part, we are determined to implement this unshakable stance.

Friendly, neighborly Sino-Vietnamese ties have a history that dates back to thousands of years and has been through many eras. This relationship was painstakingly built by Chairmen Ho Chi Minh and Mao Zedong. The two peoples helped each other during their revolutionary struggles for national liberation and to regain and defend their independence. Today, they continue to cooperate and to learn selectively from each other's experiences, so as to build socialism according to their own way, to make each country prosperous and powerful and the people prosperous and happy, and to contribute to the cause of peace, cooperation, and development in Asia and the Pacific.

We are convinced that just as with the visit of Vietnamese leaders to China in late 1991, this visit of Prime Minister Li Peng to Vietnam will help upgrade the friendly and cooperative neighborly relations.

History will certainly make progress. [lichj suwr nhuwts dqinjh tieens leen phias trouwcs]

Not only will the development of the bilateral friendly and cooperative relations meet the fundamental and long-term interest of the two people, it will be an important factor for peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and in the Asia-Pacific, for which our friends, far and near, are monitoring and are having high hopes.

On the important visit of Prime Minister Li Peng, the Vietnamese people sincerely wish the Chinese people new achievements in their building a modern and prosperous China along the line of the 14th congress of the Communist Party of China.

We hope for the constant consolidation and development of the friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and China.

We wish this visit of Prime Minister Li Peng fine success.

President Le Duc Anh Receives PRC Premier Li Peng

BK0212165592 Hanoi VNA in English 1640 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 2—President Le Duc Anh received the visiting Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng and his party at the Presidential Palace here this morning.

The Chinese prime minister conveyed to the Vietnamese premier greetings form Chinese President Yang Shangkun and the other party and state leaders of China.

President Le Duc Anh warmly welcomed Prime Minister and Mrs Li Peng and his party. He said: "We consider Comrade Prime Minister's visit an event of great importance for the consolidation of the relations of friendship and good neighbourliness between the two countries which were officially normalised more than one year ago".

The Vietnamese president warmly greeted the achievements of the Chinese people in the reform and open-door policy. He said: "Vietnam and China have a time-honoured friendship and share common interests, namely peace and development. Vietnam has always cherished its relations of friendship with China and pledge to do its best to consolidate and strengthen this traditional friendship. Our bilateral relations have been restored and witnessed a new step of development in the past year".

The Vietnamese president expressed his hope that this visit by the Chinese prime minister would help promote this process so as to meet the fundamental interests and common aspirations of the two people, for the benefit of peace and tability in the region. To this end, he stressed, the two sides should actively promote negotiations to settle the outstanding questions and the questions which have newly arisen in the relations between the two countries, including questions of territorial boundary, in the East Sea, in the Tonkin Gulf and on land. He asked his guest to convey his best regards to party General Secretary Jiang Zemin, President Yang Shangkun and other party and state leaders of China.

For his part, Prime Minister Li Peng expressed his joy at the important achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people in their process of renovation and wished the Vietnamese people success in building a strong and prosperous socialist Vietnam in line with the resolutions of the 7th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

The Chinese prime minister said that the Chinese Government and people cherish the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and China and he hoped this visit would yield good results so as to take the bilateral relations to a new level in conformity with the fundamental interests and common aspirations of the two countries.

He conveyed Chinese President Yang Shangkun's invitation to President Le Duc Anh to pay a friendship visit to China. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

The reception took place in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality.

President on the Vietnamese side were Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry Nguyen Cong Tan, director of the President Office Nguyen Viet Dung and Vietnamese Ambassador to China Dang Nghiem Hoanh.

On the Chinese side were Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Li Lanqing, Deputy Secretary General of the State Council He Chunlin, head of the State Council Office Qi Huaiyuan, Deputy Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin and Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Zhang Dewei.

SRV-PRC Agreements Signed

BK0312034992 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] At the SRV Presidential Palace at 1500 [0800 GMT] on 2 December, a solemn ceremony was held for the signing of several agreements between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Government and the People's Republic of China Government. SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and Chinese Premier Li Peng were present to witness the signing of the following agreements:

—An agreement on encouragement and guarantee of investments was signed by Comrade Dau Ngoc Xuan, Vietnamese minister and chairman of the State Commission for Cooperation and Investment and Li Langqing, Chinese minister of foreign economic relations and trade.

—An agreement on economic and technical cooperation was signed by Comrade Ho Te, Vietnamese minister of finance and Li Langqing, Chinese minister of foreign economic relations and trade.

—An agreement on scientific-technological cooperation was signed by Comrade Le Quy An, Vietnamese deputy minister of science, technology and environment and Zhou Ping, deputy chief of the Chinese State Scientific-Technical Commission.

—An agreement on cultural cooperation was signed by Comrade Vu Khac Liem, Vietnamese deputy minister of culture and information and Liu Deyou, Chinese deputy minister of culture.

Also attending the signing ceremony on the Vietnamese side were Nguyen Manh Cam, minister of foreign affairs; Le Van Triet, minister of trade; Nguyen Cong Tang, minister of agriculture and food industry; Tran Hoan, minister of culture and information; Le Xuan Trinh, chief of the Government Office; Vu Khoan, deputy minister of foreign affairs; and Dang Nghiem Hoanh, Vietnamese ambassador to China. On the Chinese side were He Chunlin, deputy secretary general of the State Council; Qi Huaiyuan, director of the Foreign Affairs Office of the State Council; Xu Dunxin, deputy foreign minister; (Trinh Hong Nghiep), chairman of the association for the promotion of international trade with China; (Khuong Van Bao), director of the Office of the State Council; and Zhang Dewei, Chinese ambassador to Vietnam.

Li Peng Leaves for Ho Chi Minh City

BK0312053892 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] This morning, 3 December, Chinese Premier Li Peng, his wife, and the Chinese distinguished guests left Hanoi for a visit to Ho Chi Minh City, the last leg of the Chinese premier's official friendship visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

An official send-off ceremony for the Chinese delegation was held at the Presidential Palace. Attending the function were Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his wife, Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh, and many ministers, deputy ministers, and high-ranking officials of the Vietnamese Government.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his wife wished Chinese Premier Li Peng and his wife continued success in their official friendship visit to Vietnam and expressed the hope for further development of solidarity and friendship between peoples of the two countries.

Premier Li Peng thanked Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, his wife, and Vietnamese leaders and people for their warm welcome and hospitality extended to the Chinese delegation. Premier Li Peng expressed the belief that the relations between the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples will be further consolidated and developed.

Hanoi Radio Reports Departure

BK0312123792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] PRC Premier Li Peng, his wife, and his entourage left Hanoi for a visit to Ho Chi Minh City on the morning of 3 December.

An official send-off ceremony was held at the presidential palace. Seeing Premier Li Peng and his entourage off were Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his wife, Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, Minister of the Government Office Le Xuan Trinh, and many other Vietnamese ministers, deputy ministers, and high-ranking cadres.

Prior to his departure, Premier Li Peng once again sincerely thanked Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, his wife, and other Vietnamese leaders and the Vietnamese people for having accorded a cordial welcome to his delegation. The premier believed that this visit by his delegation would have a positive effect on the consolidation of the neighborly friendship betwen the two countries of China and Vietnam.

Premier Li Peng invited Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his wife to pay an official friendship visit to China at a suitable time.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet expressed his thanks for this invitation. He said: Our two governments will go ahead with implementing what has been discussed by both sides in recent days. It is certain that this will further enhance the significance of this visit to Vietnam by the Chinese premier.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet wished Premier Li Peng and his entourage good health and success as expected from this visit to Vietnam.

Accompanying the Chinese premier on his visit to Ho Chi Minh City were Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry Nguyen Cong Tan, Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan, Vietnamese Ambassador to China Dang Nghiem Hoanh, and Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Zhang Dewei.

Editorials in Papers Mark 17th Lao National Day

BK0212073992 Hanoi VNA in English 0633 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 2—The dailies NHAN DAN and QUAN DOI NHAN DAN today carry editorials greeting the 17th National Day of Laos (December 2).

NHAN DAN writes: "During the past 17 years, in spite of complicated changes in the international and regional situation, under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, the Lao people overcome all difficulties and challenges and made great achievements in safeguarding the revolutionary gains and in national construction. In recent years they have also obtained important successes in carrying out the policy of all round renovation set forth by the LPRP. The people's power from the centre to the grassroots has been firmly consolidated. Political security and social order have been assured. The socioeconomic situation has seen a new step of development and the people's material and spiritual life has been step by step improved.

With its foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship and cooperation with all countries on the principle of independence, sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit, Laos has actively contributed to peace, stability, cooperation and prosperity in Southeast Asia.

Since the promulgation of the law on foreign investment in 1988, twenty two countries have invested in 208 projects in Laos.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN writes: "Laos' economy has gradually stabilized and has seen new steps of development. The economic model of Laos is built under the guideline of strongly developing agriculture, forestry and industry with great importance attached to science and technology. Thanks to this, food production has increased continually from 661,000 tonnes in 1976 to 1,450,000 tonnes in 1991, enough to meet the demand of a population of more than 3 million. Starting with a few industrial establishments of little account, Laos now has a system of industrial establishments throughout the country that produce various kinds of goods, and has built a modern hydroelectric power plant in service of production and the people's life."

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN stresses: "Vietnam and Laos are bound by special ties of strong solidarity and loyal friendship that has stood the test of time and become a precious common property of the two nations. This relation, which has been consolidated and developed over time, is the decisive factor of the successes of each nation in their national construction and defence. Of late, the two parties and states have decided to renovate the all round cooperation between Vietnam and Laos in order to make it ever more fruitful."

NHAN DAN Marks Lao National Day

BK0212152992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Editorial in 1 December issue of NHAN DAN: "Wishing the Lao Fraternal People Even Greater Revolutionary Achievements"]

[Text] Today, 2 December 1992, the multiethnic Lao people celebrate their glorious National Day. The birth of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LDPR] 17 years ago is a great historic event, marking the brilliant achievement of the long revolutionary struggle entailing great sacrifices and hardships of the Lao people for their national independence, people's democratic regime, and prosperous and happy life.

During the past 17 years, in spite of complicated changes in the international and regional situation, the multiethnic Lao people have, under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP], overcome all difficulties and challenges and made great achievements in safeguarding their revolutionary gains and national contruction in all fields.

In recent years, the fraternal Lao people have also achieved important successes in carrying out the policy of principled comprehensive renovation set forth by the LPRP. The people's governments from the central to the grass-roots levels have been firmly consolidated. Political security and social order have been assured. The socioeconomic situation has seen a new step of development and the people's material and spiritual life has been step by step improved. The LPDR's international reputation has improved with every passing day.

With its foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship, and cooperation with all countries on the principle of mutual respect of independence, sovereignty, equality, and mutual benefit, Laos has actively contributed to peace, stability, cooperation, and prosperity in Southeast Asia. While changing its agrarian and semiagrarian economy to a multisectoral goods production economy, the LPRP has broadened its international cooperation to attract foreign investment. Since the promulgation of the Foreign Investment Law in 1988, 22 countries have invested in Laos with 208 projects.

In the new situation, Comrade LPRP President Khamtai Siphandon and Comrade LPDR President Nouhak Phoumsavan have affirmed the determination of the entire party, Army, and multiethnic Lao people in uniting and heightening the revolutionary spirit to continue their principled comprehensive renovation to build and develop a people's democratic regime, and to create conditions for a gradual move to socialism.

We are happy at the great achievements of the Lao fraternal people and consider those achievements as our own. We are content when we think about the fact that the special friendship, unity, and complete cooperation between the two governments, parties, and peoples of Vietnam and Laos have been increasingly consolidated and developed for the benefit of each country's people and for peace, stability, and development in the region and in the world.

On this great festival of the Lao fraternal people, we sincerely thank the Lao party, government, and people for their precious support and assistance in our revolutionary undertaking. We wish the Lao party, Government, and multiethnic people success in their implementation of the Fifth LPRP Resolution and hope that the Lao people score greater achievements in their causes of renovation, protection, and construction of a Lao country of peace, independence, democracy, unity, and prosperity. The Vietnamese party, Government, and people will do our best to make the Vietnamese-Lao Friendship tree ever-green.

Party Leaders Send National Day Greetings to Laos

BK0112151792 Hanoi VNA in English 1449 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 1—Vietnamese party and state leaders today sent a joint message of greetings to their Lao counter-parts on the occasion of the 17th National Day of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Dec. 2).

The message signed by General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Do Muoi, President Le Duc Anh, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and Chairman of the National Assembly Nong Duc Manh, was addressed to Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and prime minister, and Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the republic and chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly.

The message says:

'Over the past seventeen years, under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, the Lao people have overcome many difficulties and trials, and achieved great successes in the defence and construction of their beloved homeland, thus taking the country forward.

'The Vietnamese people greatly rejoice at the success recorded by the Lao people, and note with satisfaction that the special solidarity and all-round cooperation between our two countries have constantly consolidated and developed, with the August, 1992, visit to Laos by a high-level party and state delegation led by Do Muoi as a new stage of development. We firmly believe that the special friendship and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and Laos will be further developed and renovated with increasing quality and efficiency, thus contributing to national construction and defence of each country in the present situation'.

On this occasion, the Union of Peace, Friendship and Solidarity organizations and its branch in Ho Chi Minh City held commemorative meetings.

French Bank Head Visits; Second Branch To Open

BK0112080392 Hanoi VNA in English 0638 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 1—Mr. Marc Vienit, chairman of the Societe Generale Bank of France, paid a working visit to Vietnam from Nov. 19-24 at the invitation of the State Bank of Vietnam.

Mr. Vienot had working sessions with vice-governor of the State Bank Le Van Chau, and Chairman and Director-General of the Bank for Foreign Trade Nguyen Manh Thuy.

He was received by Vice-Premier Phan Van Khai.

Societe Generale has set up its representative office in Hanoi in November 1989. It has received permit to open another one in Ho Chi Minh City.

Romanian Ambassador Speaks on National Day

BK0112104692 Hanoi VNA in English 1545 GMT 30 Nov 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA November 30—Romanian Ambassador to Vietnam Cristian Mocanu held here today a press conference on the occasion of the national day of Romania (Dec. 1st).

Speaking at the press conference, the ambassador stressed that Romania's economic and trade cooperation with Vietnam is of an important significance.

Also on this occasion, the Vietnam-Romania Friendship Association has held here a get together.

Speaking at this function, Vice Minister of Construction and president of the association Tran Van Huynh and Romanian Ambassador Cristian Mocanu expressed their wishes for strengthening practical activities, thus contributing to developing and consolidating the time-honoured friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Radio Reviews Nongovernmental Organizations Aid

BK2711135092 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 22 Nov 92

[Text] In our economic rehabilitation and development, we've received assistance from many countries. Apart from government assistance, so far, 840 foreign Non-Governmental Organizations [NGO] are present in Vietnam to help rebuild the country in various places.

Total Non-Governmental Organization assistance since 1975 has been raised to 300 million U.S. dollars. Seventy of those Non-Governmental Organizations are already engaged in some 600 aid projects. Now they are implemented at different stages throughout Vietnam. The rest are making feasibility studies for their own projects.

Formerly, NGO aid was mainly from North America and Europe. Now it has been expanded with participation by NGO's from Asia and the Pacific. NGO aid has taken a variety of new forms, NGO development assistance aimed at helping the poorest in poverty stricken areas is rapidly increasing and becoming a popular form which accounts for half of the total value of NGO aid, from long-term development projects, including construction of dikes, dams, afforestation, animal and livestock breeding, food production, job training, primary health care, and population and family planning.

Early this week, a three-day symposium on the assistance of Non-Governmental Organizations to Vietnam was held in Hanoi. On this occasion, Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh said that the relations between Vietnam and the NGO's are new steps in development, confirming to the Vietnamese state's open-door policy. She hoped that NGO aid to Vietnam will further be promoted.

Press Carries Rice Harvest, Planting Statistics

BK0112154492 Hanoi VNA in English 1440 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 1—According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, farmers throughout the country had by Nov. 25 harvested 1,680,000 hectares of autumn rice, or more than 62 percent of the acreage. The northern provinces brought in 1,249,700 hectares and the southern provinces, 430,500 hectares.

Meanwhile, the southern provinces had planted more than 392,000 hectares of winter-spring crop and 403,000 hectares of subsidiary crops.

—The Hai Duong porcelain company under the Ministry of Light Industry has put into production 200 more kinds of porcelain goods for domestic and foreign markets. More than 60 kinds have been offered for sale in Belgium, Australia and Germany.

By the end of November 1992, the company had achieved a turnover of 12 billion Vietnamese dong. It plans to gross !4 billion dong this year, a three-fold increase over 1991.

SE Asian Education Group President Visits

BK0312141192 Hanoi VNA in English 1352 GMT 3 Dec 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 3—Minister of Education and Training Tran Hong Quan yesterday evening received here Mr. Datuk Haji Abdul Aziz bin Umar, president of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization [SEAMEO] and minister of education of Brunei on visit to Vietnam.

The Vietnamese minister informed his guest of the development in education and training of Vietnam in recent years, especially since Vietnam rejoined the SEAMEO and its educational ties with countries in the region, its cooperation in job training with the Brunei Ministry of Education within the framework of SEAMEO cooperation programme. He expressed sincere thanks to the SEAMEO president for his valuable assistance to the Vietnam Ministry of Education and Training.

For his part, the SEAMEO president informed Minister Tran Hong Quan of his organisation's assistance plans for Vietnam in education, afforestation and other domains in the time to come.

Australia

Radio Australia Launches Khmer Service to Cambodia

BK0112041492 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0300 GMT 1 Dec 92

[Text] Radio Australia launches its newest service today with broadcasts in the Khmer language directed to listeners in Cambodia. With the inauguration of this service, Radio Australia will be broadcasting to an audience with a known need for impartial, independent, and accurate information.

The Australian foreign minister, Senator Gareth Evans, has welcomed the new service and says it demonstrated Australia's commitment to assist the people of the Asian region.

[Begin Evans recording] Radio Australia's English service is already recognized by Cambodian listeners as a reliable and valuable source of news and information. We look forward to Radio Australia contributing further through this new Khmer language service to meet the demand of the Cambodian people for information about world affairs.

Radio Australia's new Khmer language service demonstrates our Australian commitment to Cambodia as a sign of Australia's willingness to really engage very actively in assisting as best we can for the people of the region. [end recording]

The service will begin at 0530 UT [GMT] with a 30-minute broadcast on the frequencies of 17880 and 17670 kHz in the 16-meter band.

The broadcast in Cambodian will bring to seven the number of foreign language services broadcast overseas by Radio Australia.

Qantas To Fly Direct to Ho Chi Minh City Weekly

BK0212053292 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Australia's international airline, Qantas, today begins a direct weekly service to Vietnam. Qantas says it will operate the service between Sydney, Melbourne, and Ho Chi Minh City in southern Vietnam.

The move is a joint venture between Qantas and a Vietnamese-owned travel company, Direct Flight. A spokesman for Qantas says the new service in aimed mainly at the growing number of Vietnamese Australians interested in visiting their ancestral homeland.

New Zealand

Premier: UN Hostages in Cambodia 'Not in Jeopardy'

BK0212104892 Hong Kong AFP in English 1011 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] Wellington, Dec 2 (AFP)—A six-member United Nations team kidnapped by Khmer Rouge guerrillas in Cambodia Tuesday was not in jeopardy, New Zealand Foreign Minister Don McKinnon said here Wednesday.

A New Zealander, 33-year-old Royal New Zealand Navy Chief Petty Officer John Oxenham, was one of those held hostage.

McKinnon said the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) had made contact with the kidnappers.

"It's all moving pretty rapidly but the main thing is contact has been made with the Khmer Rouge," he said.

"We don't at this stage see Chief Petty Officer Oxenham is considered to be in jeopardy at all."

McKinnon said that assessment was based on the activities of the Khmer Rouge in the past year or so.

"From time to time they are inclined to make a point like this. We are hopeful that is the case and it is not anything more serious."

The U.N. team, which also included three Britons and two Filipinos, was kidnapped in northern Cambodia.

"We know this seems to be a very localised capture by the Khmer Rouge. We don't really know the severity of it. We don't really know what may come of it," said McKinnon.

"We do hope (now) dialogue has been established, we naturally hope there will be a release.

Solomon Islands

Mamaloni Rejects Dialogue With Papua New Guinea

BK0212083492 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 2 Dec 92

[Text] The Solomon Islands prime minister, Solomon Mamaloni, has firmly rejected a recent suggestion from his Australian counterpart, Paul Keating, for high-level contact between Port Moresby and Honiara to resolve differences arising from the Bougainville conflict.

The PACIFIC NEWS SERVICE, PAC news, quotes Mr. Mamaloni as saying Mr. Keating is not being helpful. He says that despite Australia's denial that it was not involved in the crisis, it was in fact inescapably a part of the conflict. Mr. Mamaloni says that in doing so Australia appears to be brushing aside its responsibility towards regional stability.